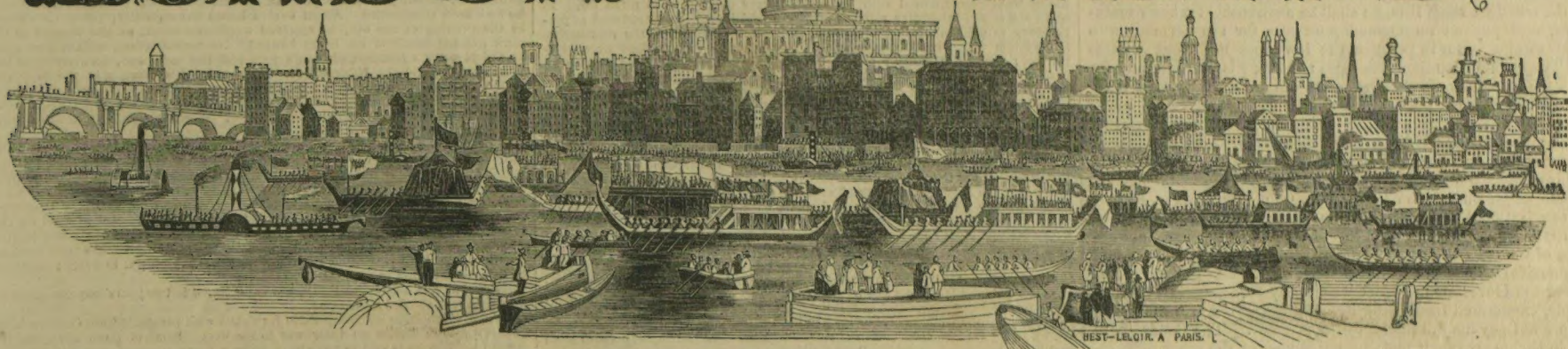


# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 395.—VOL. XV.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1849.

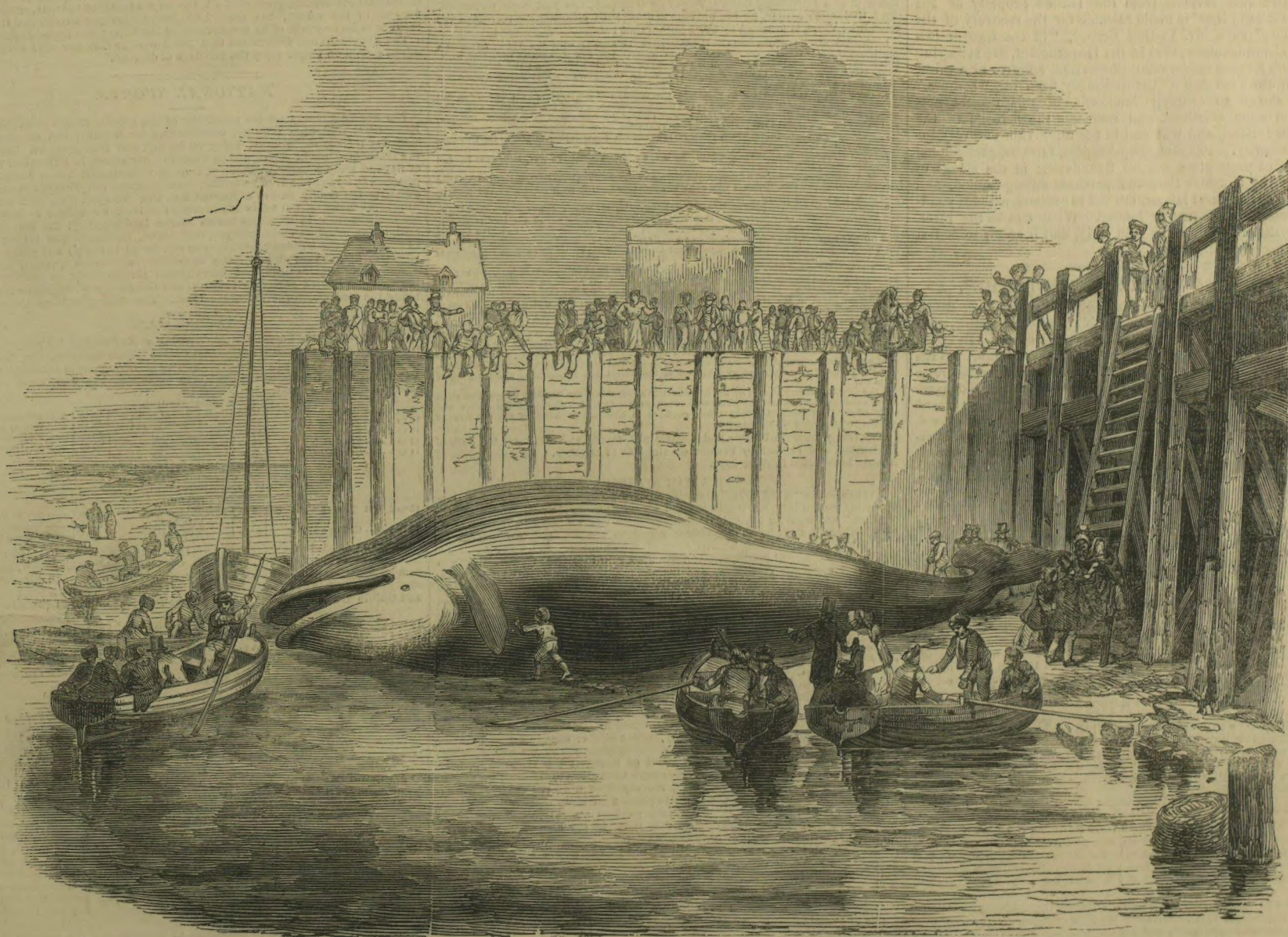
[SIXPENCE.]

## IRISH EVICTIONS.

THE state of Ireland has again become the one topic of paramount interest. All other subjects of foreign or domestic politics yield to its urgency. Nothing like the misery of the Irish people exists under the sun. Even the gleam of hope that appeared to brighten their prospects a few weeks ago, when a harvest more than usually abundant was ripe for the sickle, has disappeared. The very abundance of the crop has proved a new source of disquietude, of heart-burnings, of agrarian conflict, and of national misery. The transient hope has yielded to a more permanent despair. The landlords evict their miserable tenants by hundreds and by thousands; the miserable tenants go to the Union, or receive out-door relief at the rate of seven-eighths of a penny per day, till the munificent allowance lapses in the grave;—while the small farmers, still in possession of a portion of the soil, struggle with the landlords, and with the constabulary, for the crop. The Irish papers teem with accounts of outrages. Each day's struggle of the farmer with his landlord becomes more fierce than the struggle of yesterday. The landlords are at their wits' end, for to them, also, it is a question of ownership or confiscation—life or death. Their tenants cling with dishonest, but scarcely unnatural, tenacity to a crop, the whole of which is not sufficient to pay rent, poor's-rates, county cess, and arrears, but some portion of which is fairly due to the absolute necessities of the men who ploughed or dug the soil, and sowed the seed. The great bulk of the people either take the part of the farmers against the lords of the soil, or, to use the words of Mr. Poulett Scrope, bear the barbarities they suffer "with a patience and resignation which it is heart-breaking to witness, and which one scarcely knows whether to praise or to blame."

The prospects of the approaching winter are certainly not encouraging, when we reflect upon these things. Evictions become more numerous, as defalcations increase. How are they to be stopped? is the question that people ask. Mr. Poulett Scrope, in his valuable and interesting "Notes of a Tour in England, Scotland, and Ireland, with a view to inquire whether our labouring population be really redundant," describes the actual state of the case in forcible language:—"A moment's consideration," he says, "will shew the futility of expecting any mercy to be shewn to these poor people by those whom the law at present arms with the power of destroying them. It sounds very well to English ears to preach forbearance and generosity to the landowners. But it should be remembered that few of them have it in their power to be merciful or generous to their poor tenantry. They act under compulsion, usually of the severest kind. They are themselves engaged in a life and death struggle with their creditors. Moreover, the greater number of the depopulators are mere agents for absent landlords or for the law-receivers under the courts acting for creditors, and bound by the established rules and avowed practice of the Court of Chancery itself (the fountain and head of justice) to make the utmost of the property entrusted to them, without regard to any other consideration than the pecuniary interest of the parties, which is committed to their care. Those landlords who have yet some voice in the management of their estates, seeing the highest court of judicature in the realm sanction this principle of action, think themselves justified—most of them, indeed, are compelled by the overwhelming pressure of their own difficulties—to follow the example. It is vain to expect mercy to be shown under such circumstances. All is done in the sacred name of the law. The Sheriff, the representative of the majesty of the law, is the actual exterminator. The officers of the law execute the process. The

constabulary, acting under the orders of the magistracy, stand by to prevent resistance; and if any is expected, the Queen's troops are brought to the spot, to quell with all the power of the throne what would amount to an act of rebellion. It is absurd, then, to cast the blame of these foul deeds, and their horrible results, upon a few reckless, bankrupt, wretched landlords. It is to the law, or rather to the Government and Legislature which uphold it, and refuse to mitigate its ferocity, that the crime rightly attaches; and they will be held responsible for it by history, by posterity—aye, and perhaps before long, by the retributive justice of God, and the vengeance of a people infuriated by barbarous oppression, and brought at last to bay by their destroyers." These are strong words—but they are true. Yet it is impossible to see how evictions are to be entirely prevented. If a landlord's property swarms with a tenantry too ignorant and dispirited to cultivate the land, and too poor or too dishonest to pay the rent agreed upon, he must evict them, or become a pauper himself. Man for man, he will consider that his life is as valuable as theirs, and that there is no necessity why he and his family should starve, in order that his tenantry may be fed. No law that the Legislature could devise can force a landlord to let his farms to paupers, unless it should boldly confiscate his land once for all, for the benefit of the incompetent and the dishonest—a course of proceeding which the greatest foe of the eviction system would scarcely recommend; and which, even if acted upon, might not be to the advantage of the paupers it was intended to serve. The truth is, that these evictions, under the peculiar and most melancholy circumstances of Ireland, are not merely a legal, but a natural process; and, however much we may deplore the misery from which they spring, and which they so dreadfully aggravate, we cannot compel the Irish proprietors to continue in their miserable holdings the wretched swarms of



WHALE CAPTURED IN THE THAMES, AT GRAYS, ESSEX.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



people who pay no rent, and who prevent the improvement of property as long as they remain upon it.

Two things, however, we can and must do, unless we intend to convert Ireland into a wilderness where grouse or deer may breed, but where no human foot may tread, save those of the gamekeeper and the sportsman. We must see whether the wholesale evictions of families may not be prevented, in degree, if not entirely, by rendering the landlords responsible for the lives of the people. The first of these things is supposed to be provided for by the operation of the present Poor-law. It is held that if the landlord deprive his tenants of their little holdings and drive them into the Union or upon the out-door relief lists, he shall be answerable for their maintenance, and pay an augmented poor-rate for the permission to clear his estates. But in practice the law does not work to this end. The evicting landlord manages to shirk his burden, and fix it upon the shoulders of others who do not evict, and upon those of such tenants and occupiers as can still contrive to make both ends meet. The evicting landlord, instead of bearing, as he ought to do, the whole burden which his own mismanagement or extravagance, or those of his ancestors and predecessors, brought upon his estate, contrives, by evicting, to shift the greater portion upon his neighbours, upon the Union, upon the Rate in Aid, or upon the National Treasury. It is competent to the State to make the evictor, and him only, responsible for the life and subsistence of the evictee. If the landlord, as we assert, is not bound to be merciful to the pauper tenant who does not pay rent, the Union or the Government, whichever it may be, is, upon the same principle, exonerated from being merciful to the bankrupt landlord who does not pay his full amount of poor-rates. The law is inexorable in the one case; it must be equally so in the other, if it intend to do justice.

The second thing to be done for Ireland is equally obvious to all who know her abundant resources and her natural fertility; resources and fertility so great as to be able to afford, with ordinary good management, a comfortable subsistence for double or even treble her present population. A starving people, and millions of waste but cultivable lands, are two co-existent facts which disgrace our civilization. The Irish rate-payers—aided by grants of public money, and by the benevolence of wealthy individuals in England—maintain upwards of a million and a half of paupers, of whom a third at the very lowest calculation are able-bodied, either in total idleness, or in unproductive and merely penal labour. On every side of the Union-houses where these hives of much-devouring pauperism exist, are thousands of waste acres that only require the expenditure of capital, skill, and labour upon them to feed all these people at a profit. The Unions are already capitalists. Some of them—that of Kilrush, for instance—spend £1000 per week, or £52,000 per annum, in feeding paupers who perform nothing in return but penal labour. Why should not these Unions expend some portion of that capital in the cultivation of bogs and mountain slopes? The skill cannot be supposed to be wanting, with Boards of Guardians to direct, and practised agriculturists to be had as bailiffs, for a decent salary. As for the labour, it is superabundant. The Unions have, therefore, all that is required—the money to expend, and the able-bodied men to employ. Aye! but the land? It is there the difficulty lies. The land is not purchasable. Waste and all but worthless as it is, the title is complicated and cumbrous, and the real or nominal proprietors, though willing, are not able to sell, and Boards of Guardians are not able to purchase, without the intervention of the Legislature.

Under the law as it at present stands, Boards of Guardians are empowered to hire the maximum quantity of forty imperial or statute acres, for erecting their union houses, fever hospitals, school houses, &c., and for instructing children in an improved system of the cultivation of land. Wherever Boards of Guardians have tried to make the labour of paupers reproductive, they have succeeded; but, as they cannot purchase land in their corporate capacity, and as they excuse the landlord from the full payment of rates, and do not proceed to the seizure of such portion of his land as will satisfy their claims for arrears of poor-rate, the land lies waste, and paupers live in idleness—consuming and, in fact, destroying the country. By the act of last Session the full amount of the poor-rate is leviable from the landed property of the district, and the land itself is made saleable for the recovery of the amount. "Yet," says Mr. Poulett Scrope, "in the face of this liability, the Commissioners, that is, the Government, are satisfying themselves with levying only a small proportion, a fourth or a third, of the expenditure, making up the deficiency from other sources." The mercy shown to evicting landlords in this respect acts as a premium upon evictions, and increases the acreage of the waste lands in Ireland, and will end in the utter ruin of every interest in the country. Paupers, shop-keepers, farmers, professional men, and landed proprietors are all floundering in the slough of starvation. Five hundred thousand persons, strong-bodied, and accustomed to agricultural labour, are fed in Ireland without yielding an equivalent in productive labour. What can be the result of such a system? Ruin, and ruin only, and it seems to be fast approaching.

### CAPTURE OF A WHALE IN THE THAMES.

In the afternoon of Tuesday week, several labourers in the employ of Messrs. Meeson, lime-merchants, at Grays, had their attention drawn to a dark object floating in the Thames, which appeared to be a vessel keel upwards. Its violent plunging, however, soon caused the observers to change their opinion. The tide was low, and they forthwith perceived it to be a whale, hard and fast ashore on the Black Shelf, a shoal abreast of Grays. Boats were put off, and with much difficulty the whale was secured with ropes, when it proved to be a "finner," measuring fifty-eight feet in length, and thirty in girth. As the tide flowed, arrangements were made to haul it on shore; and as the water floated it, desperate were the attempts made by the creature to regain its freedom. The ropes, however, held it fast; it was dragged to land, and there killed with a sword. The labourers were of Trinulo's opinion that the monster would make a man, and not a holiday fool but would give a piece of silver to see it: a screen was soon raised about the carcass, and the captors were soon in the way of making a handsome sum by the exhibition of the prize.

This Whale, like other strange waifs, is likely to be the cause of litigation. On Saturday, the Lord Mayor, attended by the City solicitor, proceeded to Grays, for the purpose of officially asserting his claims to the creature, as Conservator of the River, and giving it up to the service of the captors, upon condition that they would not convey it to London or Gravesend for exhibition, nor allow it to become a nuisance anywhere. His Lordship, upon approaching the spot where the Whale lay, experienced the desirableness of insisting upon the latter condition; for the stench had already become very great. No sooner was his Lordship's intention of giving up the prize announced, than there sprang up a number of claimants, at the head of whom was Captain Corbet, who, with his men, first pursued the whale, and, by aid of some watermen, secured it. The Lords of the Admiralty made no claim to it as a droit, having received experience from a precedent in 1809, when they were put to great expense in defending their claim to a whale taken in the river, but which was demanded by Sir Charles Flower, then Lord Mayor, as Conservator of the Thames and Medway, and entitled to all the "Royal fish" caught within the City limits; and to his Lordship the whale was ultimately adjudged.

There is no small animosity among the captors, the sum of £150 having been offered for the carcass, which is rich in oil; but they have been recommended to refer their claims to the arbitration of Captain Ronaldson, the principal harbour master. Meanwhile, the exhibition at Grays is flourishing at Trinulo's price—6d. a head.

**ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERY.**—A short time since, as the ploughman of Mr. Michael Rose, of Long Crendon, Bucks, was ploughing, his plough came in contact with a large stone, which proved to be the lid of a cistern, about two feet square, containing three earthen urns, and a few bones. The urns are small, the largest standing about 8 inches, and are of a brown colour; the largest worked, the others quite plain.

The Church and State Gazette contains the following statement:—"We are informed, on good authority, that many Wesleyan ministers, dissatisfied with their system of church government, and not the least so with the recent proceedings, are meditating a resignation of their charges, and a course of study preparatory to offering themselves for ordination in our church."

### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

#### FRANCE.

Rumours, not quite groundless, of a Ministerial crisis, arising out of M. Thiers' report on the money-credits to defray the expense of the Roman expedition, prevailed in Paris in the early part of the week. M. Thiers had been appointed by the committee to which the question had been referred by the Legislative Assembly to draw up their report, and the honourable gentleman accordingly having prepared the document, read it to the Assembly on Saturday last. It is of great length, and enters very fully and elaborately into the subject. It gives a description of the hopes of three years ago, and their results in the year 1849. It refers to the liberal intentions manifested by the Pope on his accession, and the hopes excited in the breasts of all reasonable men, that the Italian States would be endowed with as much liberty as they were fitted for. In some states administrative reforms simply would have been introduced as preparatory to political institutions; and, in the most advanced, the representative system would have been admitted. These fine expectations were overthrown; for "a disorderly faction, which placed the satisfaction of its own passions far above the true interests of its own cause, seized upon Italy, and precipitated her into an abyss." Everywhere it excited the populations to demand institutions having no relation to the state of minds or manners. It drove those into republican institutions who were incapable at the moment of elevating themselves above municipal and provincial liberties; and it committed the worst fault of all—that of provoking a war of independence, adding thereto the further fault of turning the arms of the people against their Government. The capital of the Catholic world, deprived of the Pope, had thus become a Republic. "The Republic could not," says the report, "have escaped from Austrian influences. It was the duty of France, therefore, to intervene and to re-establish an equilibrium by preventing Austria from marching an army to Rome. Every interest impelled France to do this. But then Rome was a Republic, and the constitution forbade France to arm itself against the liberty of a people. But," continues M. Thiers, "the constitution, though a bad one, did not, when it consecrated such a rule, intend that evil passions, even though they showed themselves in a Republic, should not be chastised. The constitution was not violated, therefore, by the intervention of a French army. The expedition had cost France sacrifices, but the soldiers of France had been the admiration of all the world by their bravery." The report then proceeds to show that the *motu proprio* is all that could be desired; that the Pope could grant no more; and that, as for the credits, they are small and economical compared with what might have been expected. The report thus sacrifices completely the letter of the President of the Republic, whose programme of Government reform for Rome seems entirely set at naught, no mention, in fact, being made of the letter in the document.

In the Assembly, as soon as the spirit of M. Thiers' report was discovered by the enunciation of the principle that the Italian people were not fit for more than certain municipal privileges, a tempest arose amongst the members of the left benches, but not of so sustained a character as to prevent the hon. gentleman from reading his report to the end.

In the Cabinet, the embarrassment created by the probability of the Assembly's adopting the report, and thus pronouncing against the avowed policy of Ministers who have taken the President's letter as the basis thereof, did not pass away quite so readily. It was stated, among other things, that the President of the Republic had made up his mind to a rupture with the policy indicated in the report of M. Thiers; and that a notification to that effect would appear in the columns of the *Monteur*.

At a later date, however, a compromise was considered probable—that M. Thiers would make some allusion in the debate in the Assembly to the President's letter, and that the Government would not oppose the taking of the report into consideration. Up to the date of our latest advices, however, the differences between the President and M. Thiers' party were not adjusted. Several attempts at reconciliation had been made, but it does not appear that they had proved successful.

Rumours of various kinds were afloat, but they were of no moment. Another subject of embarrassment for the President and his Ministry is the proposition of M. Napoleon Bonaparte to repeal the laws excluding both branches of the Bourbons from France. The committee of the Assembly to which the question has been referred, having asked the opinion of Ministers upon it, they said that they thought the moment inopportune, and that the proposal ought to be adjourned, and the committee decided on drawing up a report in that sense. The project of law for the payment of the dowry of the Duchess of Orleans has been passed in the Assembly by a large majority.

At the Versailles trials Huber has been found guilty of the two charges brought against him, namely, 1st, of having on the 15th of May, 1848, committed an *attentat*, the object of which was to destroy or change the Government; and, secondly, of having, on the same day, attempted to kindle civil war by inciting the citizens to arm themselves the one against the other. He was sentenced to transportation.

The trials of the other prisoners are going on in a very quiet manner, interrupted only by an exciting scene which occurred on Tuesday. M. Girardin, editor of the *Presse*, was examined, and gave it as his opinion that the Constitution had been violated, and that the demonstration of the 13th of June was strictly legal. The Attorney-General controverted this declaration. M. Girardin was about explaining, when the Attorney-General rose and opposed the course that the witness was pursuing. The gravity of the Court was here disturbed by all the prisoners rising, and demanding that M. Girardin should be heard in justification of his views. The surprise and confusion became so great, that the business of the Court was suspended for some time, when, after an exchange of a few angry words between M. Girardin and the Attorney-General, the former withdrew, and the trial proceeded.

A letter from Toulon of the 13th states that the French fleet had been ordered to put to sea, and would, it was rumoured, join that of Admiral Parker, off Smyrna.

#### GERMAN STATES.

The following convention between Prussia and Austria, relative to the establishment of a Provisional Central Power for Germany, has just been published. An introductory article, for the purpose of decorously effecting the retreat of the Archduke Vicar, is followed by these paragraphs:—

1. The Governments of the German Confederation, in concert with the Vicar, agree on a provisional form of interim, during which time Austria and Prussia assume the administration of the central power for the German Confederation, in the name of all the Governments of the Confederation, until the 1st of May, 1850, unless this power cannot be transferred to a definitive power before that period.

2. The object of the interim is to maintain the German Confederation as a union founded on the right of the states appertaining to the German Princes and of the free cities, to having preserved the independence and the integrity of their states comprised in the Confederation, and to having maintained the internal and external security of Germany.

3. So long as the interim lasts, the affairs of the German constitution is left to the free concertation of the individual states.

It is the same with those affairs which, by art. 6 of the Federative Act, belong to the full Assembly of the Diet.

4. If, at the expiration of the interim, the German constitutional question should be not yet settled, the German Governments will come to an understanding with respect to the prolongation of the present treaty.

5. The affairs hitherto carried on by the Provisional Central Power, in so far as, according to the Legislation of the Confederation, they come within the competency of the late Assembly, are transmitted for the entire duration of the interim to a dietary committee, to which Prussia and Austria appoint each two members, to sit at Frankfurt. The other governments can be represented by plenipotentiaries accredited to the said committee, either by each individual state or by several states conjointly.

6. The committee of the Confederation carries on affairs in an independent manner, but are responsible to the powers that respectively nominate them. It forms its resolutions after deliberation in common. If the members cannot agree, the decision takes place by means of negotiation between the Governments of Prussia and Austria, and which latter, in case of need, will refer to a judgment by arbitration. This judgment is pronounced by three governments of the Confederation. In such case, Austria will nominate each time one of the arbiters and Prussia the other. The two Governments thus designated have to decide upon a third arbiter for completing the tribunal of arbitration. The members of the Committee of the Confederation divide the affairs assigned to them in this mode, that according to the Legislation of the existing Confederation, and especially according to the Military Constitution of the Confederation, they either personally carry them on or else direct and superintend the carrying of them on.

7. As soon as the ratification by the governments aforesaid of the present proposition shall have taken place, the Archduke Vicar will renounce his dignity and depose the rights and duties of the Confederation that have been confided to him into the hands of the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia.

This treaty between Prussia and Austria was signed at Vienna on the 30th of September, and ratified by Prussia on the 10th of October. The ratification of Austria is expected in some days.

#### ITALIAN STATES.

NAPLES.—The "good King" of the Two Sicilies, finding his kingdom in a state of perfect tranquillity, has begun to show what he understands by the "blessings of peace," and what an example of moderation he can set his beloved subjects, by adopting the most harsh and violent measures against those who are known to be favourable to a constitutional form of Government. Accounts, dated the 4th, state that the following persons have been sent into exile—MM. Lanza, a celebrated physician of Naples, and his son; Mancini, ex-deputy; Pisanelli, ex-deputy; Francisco Ruggiero, late Minister of the Finances; Conforte, late Minister of the Interior; the Prince de Frasso; the Duke Donato de San Biase; Giordano, architect and professor of mathematics, ex-deputy. These persons all disembarked at Genoa. They are only the first instalment, as they are to be followed by a great number more, who are either exiled or who have taken to flight as marked men. Besides these, a great number of ex-deputies have been arrested, and now fill the prisons of Naples. Among them are MM. Scialoja, Mamma, Avossa, Contona, de Luca, the two brothers Gaetan, and André Zila, the cousins of Dragonetti.

It is strange that M. Ruggiero should be among the proscribed. He was a member of the Bozelli Ministry, which was called a reactionary cabinet, because under it the revolt of the 15th of May, 1848, raised by the ultra-democrats against the system of a constitutional monarchy, which at that time had just been installed, was suppressed by military force. Altogether, out of the 120 members who composed the Elective Chamber, about 80 have left the kingdom, or have been detained, and it is stated that orders have been given to arrest all the others.

It is impossible to conjecture what is the object of King Ferdinand in authorising such measures. Some think it is to put to flight enlightened and moderate liberalism, and to suppress the Constitution; others are of opinion that it is to strike terror into the public mind, and that it is but the commencement of rigorous measures which will end in sanguinary executions.

ROME.—There is no news of interest from the Eternal City. The rumour of the Pope's speedy return was very prevalent.

PIEDMONT.—The Piedmontese Gazette publishes a law of the 29th ult., allowing a further subsidy of 100,000, for the assistance of Italian refugees. Garibaldi sailed from the island of Maddalena for Gibraltar and England, where he is to embark for New York.

#### AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The news from the Danube this week is of a sanguinary character; and, though the late events in Hungary have familiarised men's minds with bloodshed, and thereby rendered them less easily shocked by instances of human

slaughter, the execution at Pesth of one of the highest and noblest magnates of the Magyar aristocracy (Count Louis Bathany, the late Prime Minister of Hungary) has produced the most gloomy sensations, and feelings of mingled terror, hatred, and disgust amongst all the Liberals of the Austrian empire.

The unfortunate nobleman, for his participation in the late insurrection, was originally sentenced to be hanged, in order that his death might be as ignominious as possible; and, further to gratify the foul spirit of revenge, the execution was fixed for the 6th instant, the anniversary of the murder of the Austrian Minister of War (Count Latour) last year, at Vienna, in which crime it was said that Bathany was a participator by instigation. This, however, is most probably a calumny. To avoid the infamy of death by the rope, the unfortunate noble had wounded himself with a dagger (sent by his wife) in the throat, intending to commit suicide; and, although the attempt at self-destruction failed, yet he escaped the ignominious death of hanging, to which he had been condemned. About twelve hours subsequently, viz. at six o'clock in the evening of the 6th, he received a soldier's death, as the wounds in his neck did not admit of his being hanged. He walked erect, with a firm step, to the place of execution, although pale and haggard; and, on arriving at the fatal spot, behind the Neugebaude, he passed a few seconds in prayer. His eyes were then bound with a handkerchief; a signal was given with the drum; three riflemen advanced close up to him—fired—and the unfortunate man fell dead, without either groan or struggle. The last words he uttered were, "Eljen a haza!" ("My country for ever!")

Eight of the Magyar generals were hanged, and four were shot, at Arad on the same day. The names of the Hungarian generals hanged are: Schmoidei, Damjanich (whom Görgey persuaded to give up Arad), Nagy-Sandor, Knesich, Aulich, Versey, Pötenberg, Török. Those who were shot, their sentence having been commuted to death by powder and lead, were: Ernst Kiss, Aristides Desewify, Lasar, and Laner. It is said that an imperial reprieve was sent to Arad for the prisoners, but so late as to create suspicion that it was merely intended to give a varnish of clemency to the Court, without rescuing the victims from punishment. Several other victims of minor note have been put to death; amongst them some Catholic priests.

Count Stephen Karoly, at Pesth, was condemned to two years' imprisonment in a fortress and 150,000 florins fine.

Several Hungarian officers of those furnished with passports from Comorn have passed through Berlin on their way to the west. Some of them are going to America. Klapsa is said to have been among these refugees, and to have embraced the resolution of crossing the Atlantic.

The *Cologne Gazette* confirms the statement that General Bem, having embraced the Mahommedan faith, received the name of Amurath, and was immediately raised to the dignity of a Pasha with three tails.

#### RUSSIA.

Success smiles for the nonce on the arms of the Czar. On the 29th of August the capture of the fortress of Ahulga, the capital of the Circassian chief Schamil, in the Caucasian Mountains, was effected after a siege of eleven months. The engagement was very severe, Schamil had 1000 men killed, besides wounded, and 900 of his men were made prisoners; the Russians had 444 killed, and many wounded. Schamil, one of his sons, and one of his wives had disappeared; another wife and a second son were killed, and a third son was made prisoner. Schamil was wounded in the arm by a bullet.

#### UNITED STATES.

Advices to the 3rd inst., from New York, have been received this week. The alleged correspondence between Mr. Clayton, the Secretary of State, and Mr. Crampton, the British Chargé d'Affaires, relative to the Mosquito territory, has, according to the newspaper organ of Mr. Clayton, never taken place.

The disturbance of the relations with France seems to produce some apprehension, not absolutely of war, but interruption of the friendly intercourse which has so long subsisted between the two countries.

M. Poussin, the French Minister, had left Washington for New York, where he intended awaiting instructions from his Government. Previous to leaving Washington he made repeated efforts to have an interview with the President and Secretary of State, and, for this purpose, the friendly services of Mr. Crampton, the British Chargé, were interposed. They were unsuccessful, however, as neither General Taylor nor Mr. Clayton thought it proper, after the steps that had already been taken, to hold any intercourse which might become of an official character with M. Poussin.

The Astor House rioters, in the Macready and Forrest affair, have been convicted of participation in the disgraceful scenes on the memorable 10th of May last. After a long and wearisome trial, a verdict of guilty was returned.

There had been terribly destructive fires at Owego, Cincinnati, and other towns. That at Owego commenced in a boot store, and resisted all efforts to arrest its progress until the entire business portion of the town was laid in ruins—only two stores of any kind escaping the flames. The number of buildings destroyed is about 80, among which are all those on Main-street, and all on Lake-street as far down as the Central Hotel. The large bridge across the Susquehanna is burned. The loss is roughly set down at 500,000 dollars. Among the property destroyed is the post-office, with all that it contained. A fortunate change of wind saved the remainder of the town.

Yucatan accounts mention that England was about to intervene for the pacification of the Peninsula by virtue of a contract with the President of the Republic, on condition that the fort of Bucalos and jurisdiction be ceded to England.

#### CANADA.

Accounts from Montreal, under date of the 26th ult., state that the riots at Bytown had been renewed. The two parties had met, and a terrible conflict ensued. Numbers had been dreadfully wounded, and eight lives were reported to be lost.

There was a rumour of an intention to remove the Administration from Montreal.

#### CALIFORNIA.

We have advices from San Francisco to August 18th. The news from the mines represents the yield of gold as steady. It is estimated that the average product of all the mines together thus far, since the beginning of the season, has been 2,000,000 dollars per month, and there was thought to be no doubt of its continuance at the same rate of abundance. The Americans had determined that the American Chilians who were at the mines should no longer enjoy the privilege of digging.

### NATIONAL SPORTS.

The racing fixtures for the remainder of the present month comprehend the Newmarket Houghton Meeting, commencing on Monday, and terminating on Saturday; Leek on Monday, Illey on Friday, and Richmond on Tuesday, in the succeeding week. There will be a sort of after season in November, made up of flat and steeple racing, to which will succeed the regular winter campaign. It promises to be a good but not a brilliant one. Sickness has prevailed to so great an extent in the racing stables at Newmarket, that the sport there next week will, as regards matches, fall below the average; at least we collect as much from the disinclination to handicap horses at the late meeting; the list, however, contains an immense number of proposed plates, handicaps, and selling stakes, in addition to the Cambridgeshire (to be run on Tuesday) and other standing engagements, so that we may fairly anticipate an average quantity of racing. The coursing fixtures next week comprehend Hutton Moor on Monday, North Berwick and Ettrick Forest on Tuesday, and Glossop on Wednesday—nothing to tempt the metropolitan lovers of the leash. The "Steeple-Chase Calendar" is "blank."

#### TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—Settling for the last day's racing at Newmarket did not prevent the transaction of a fair amount of business on the Cambridgeshire, the "features" of which were a decline in Rathmines and an improvement in Ribaldry, who had a strong party. No changes in the Derby quotations but what arose from the result of the Prendergast.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.		
8 to 1 agst Rathmines	16 to 1 agst Collingwood	25 to 1 agst Minimum
10 to 1 — Ribaldry (t)	20 to 1 — Legerdmain (t)	30 to 1 — Robert de Brus
12 to 1 — Baby	25 to 1 — Malton (t)	50 to 1 — Fitzpatrick
13 to 1 — Woolwich	25 to 1 — Vanguard	66 to 1 — Fugleman
14 to 1 — Crucible (t)	25 to 1 — Joe-o'-Sot	
	200 even on the field agst eight.	

#### CRITERION STAKES.

4 to 1 agst William the Conqueror		
DERBY.		
15 to 1 agst The Knight of Avenel	12 to 1 agst Mildew	33 to 1 agst Bro to Epirote
18 to 1 — Ghillie Callum	20 to 1 — Clincher	33 to 1 — Pitsford
	30 to 1 — Moulton	40 to 1 — Penang (t)

THURSDAY.—A tolerably lively afternoon on the whole as regarded the Cambridgeshire—Raby, Ribaldry, Woolwich, Glauc, Riens, Collingwood, and Over-fork-over having plenty of backers *per contra*, Legerdmain and Joe-o'-Sot were sent to the right about. An immense field is expected. The Knight of Avenel and Ghillie Callum were in demand for the Derby at improved quotations.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.		
10 to 1 agst Rathmines (t)	14 to 1 agst Vanguard	25 to 1 agst Over-fork-over (t)
12 to 1 — Ribaldry (t)	15 to 1 — Collingwood	30 to 1 — Minimum
13 to 1 — Baby (t)	15 to 1 — Riens	50 to 1 — Legerdmain
13 to 1 — Woolwich (t)	25 to 1 — Malton	50 to 1 — Joe-o'-Sot
13 to 1 — Glauc		66 to 1 — Fitzpatrick

#### CRITERION.

2 to 1 agst The Nigger (t)		
DERBY.		
8 to 1 agst Lord Eglington's lot (t)	17 to 1 agst Ghillie Callum	33 to 1 agst Penang
11 to 1 — Bollingbroke	20 to 1 — Clincher	40 to 1 — Delcom
13 to 1 — Knight of Avenel	20 to 1 — Cyrrus	40 to 1 — Windhound (t)
	25 to 1 — Sweetheart	

**DISCOVERY OF A CAVERN IN WALES.**—We have been favoured by a correspondent with the following interesting announcement, dated from Conway, October 12:—"On Wednesday, the miners at Llandno broke, in the course of their labours, into what appeared to be an extensive cavern, the roof of which, being one mass of stalactite, reflected back their lights with dazzling splendour. On examination the cavern turned out to be an old work, probably Roman, the benches, stone hammers, &c., used by that ancient people having been found entire, together with many bones of mutton, which had been consumed by these primitive miners. The bones are to all appearance as fresh, though impregnated with copper, as they were when denuded of their fleshy covering, after remaining, as they must have done, nearly two thousand years in the bowels of the earth. The cavern is about forty yards long, and must be a subject of great interest to those fond of investigating the remains of bygone ages."—*Liverpool Albion*.

The deliveries of tea from the London warehouses last week were 528,329 lb.



## COURT AND HAUT TON.

## ARRIVAL OF THE COURT AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal household, left Buckingham Palace at ten minutes past one o'clock on Saturday last, for Windsor Castle. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were escorted, by a detachment of Hussars, from the Palace to the Nine Elms station; travelled (for the first time) by a special train on the London and South-Western Railway to Datchet; and were escorted by a detachment of the 1st Life Guards (commanded by the Earl of Mountcharles) to Windsor Castle, where they arrived at a quarter-past two o'clock. The Prince of Wales and the other youthful branches of the Royal family had arrived at the Castle about an hour previously, from the Isle of Wight.

The Queen and Prince Albert, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household attended divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley officiated.

His Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Wiemar joined the Royal dinner circle on Monday.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince took their accustomed early morning walk. His Royal Highness afterwards enjoyed the sport of pheasant shooting. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent dined at the Castle in the evening.

The Earl of Carlisle arrived at the Castle on Wednesday, on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort.

The Count and Countess de Neuilly, accompanied by the Prince de Joinville, the Duke d'Anmale, and by Prince Alexander of Wurtemberg and Prince Philippe of Wurtemberg, visited the Queen and Prince Albert on Thursday, and partook of luncheon at Windsor Castle.

## THE QUEEN DOWAGER.

We announced last week, with very sincere regret, the serious indisposition of her Majesty the Queen Dowager. We are sorry to say that no favourable change has since taken place in her Majesty's symptoms; and great fears are entertained for the result.

Sir David Davies and Mr. Keate are in attendance upon her Majesty, and we believe that Dr. Bright has been sent for from Scotland to consult with the former gentlemen. On Dr. Bright's arrival, there is too much reason to fear that bulletins will be issued.

The Queen and Prince Albert visited their illustrious relative on Friday last, at Bentley Priory. The Duchess of Cambridge, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and Prince George, have also visited her Majesty within the last few days.

The Bishop of London was in attendance upon her Majesty on Thursday.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson and the Baroness de Speth, left her residence, Clarence House, St. James's, on Tuesday morning, for Frogmore House.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester received her Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge at dinner on Monday, at her residence, Richmond Park.

The Count and Countess de Neuilly visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent on Saturday, at Clarence House, St. James's.

His Royal Highness the Infante Don Juan of Spain, accompanied by Gen. Cabrera, left town on Tuesday night for the Continent.

Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess (Dowager) of Baden and suite have arrived at the Clarendon Hotel.

The Princess Lieven has left town for Paris.

The Prince and Princess Doria Pamphili and their youthful family have left town for the Continent.

The Duke and Duchess of Montrose have arrived in town, from a tour of the German Spas. The noble Duke and Duchess shortly leave for Buchanan Castle, North Britain.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Douglas and family have left town for Scotland.

The Earl of Durham has just been added to the Commission of the Peace for the county of Northumberland, by the Lord-Lieutenant, Earl Grey.

The Viscountess Maidstone was safely delivered of a daughter on Saturday last, at Augusta House, Worthing.

The Viscount Brackley is said to be progressing favourably towards recovery.

Lord Brougham has arrived at his *château* at Cannes, in the south of France, where his Lordship proposes remaining for about three months.

Colonel the Hon. N. Hood has relieved Sir Edward Bowater in his duties as Groom in Waiting to the Queen. The Hon. Miss Cavendish has also arrived at the Castle, to take her duty as Maid of Honour in Waiting.

## CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &amp;c.

## OXFORD.

The Regius Professor of Divinity proposes to resume the reading of Dr. Routh's *Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Opuscula*, on Thursday, the 26th inst.

The Regius Professor of Divinity intends to commence a course of public lectures on Monday, the 19th of November, at one o'clock, at Christ Church.

The following Heads of Houses have been nominated by the Vice-Chancellor to act as Pro-Vice-Chancellors during his absence at any time from the University; viz. Dr. Wynter, President of St. John's; Dr. Symons, Warden of Wadham; Dr. Richards, Rector of Exeter; Dr. Cotton, Provost of Worcester.

The Rev. W. S. Newman, M.A., of Wadham College, and Assistant-Master of the King's School, Warwick, has been appointed Master of Dr. Chalmers's Grammar-School, Amersham, Bucks.

In Jesus College, a Fellowship belonging to the six counties of North Wales being now vacant, a native of one of the counties aforesaid, who can speak the Welsh language, will be elected into the vacant Fellowship on the 29th inst.

The Savilian Professor of Geometry proposes to commence a course of lectures at his house, in New College-lane, on Tuesday, the 23rd instant, at two o'clock. These lectures comprise elementary illustrations, by means of models, &c., of the conic sections and other curves and surfaces, the principles of algebraic geometry and of the differential and integral calculus, with outlines of the history of mathematics. Gentlemen who wish to attend are requested to call on Professor Powell on Monday, the 22nd instant, at two o'clock.

The Reader in Experimental Philosophy will commence a course of lectures on mechanics, at the Clarendon, on Wednesday, Oct. 24, at one o'clock. These lectures will be continued at the same hour every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, until completed. Gentlemen desirous of attending are requested to put down their names at the lecture-room, in the Clarendon, on the day preceding, between the hours of two and three, or at the close of the first lecture.

The Laudian Professor of Arabic proposes to begin an elementary lecture at the Clarendon on Wednesday, the 24th instant, at three o'clock.

Dean Ireland's Professor of the Exegesis of Holy Scripture proposes to commence his lectures this term, in the Clarendon, at two o'clock on Tuesday, the 23rd of October. These lectures are open to members of the University who have passed the examination for the degree of B.A.; and those who desire to attend them are requested to leave their names at the Professor's house on Monday, Oct. 22.

An election will take place at Oriel College on Friday, Nov. 2, of two scholars. Candidates must not have exceeded twenty years of age, nor if members of the University have matriculated more than eight terms. Certificates of time of birth and baptism, and testimonials of good conduct, to be presented to the Provost of Oriel on or before Monday, Oct. 28.

## CAMBRIDGE.

At a congregation, held on Wednesday last, the under-mentioned degrees were conferred:—B.D., Rev. C. J. Abraham, King's College, M.B., J. Anthony, Cains College. At the same congregation, the following grades passed the senate:—To appoint Dr. Bond, of Corpus Christi College, examiner for medical degrees during the ensuing year; to appoint Dr. Woodham, of Jesus College, an examiner for the Le Bas prize of the present year; to appoint Mr. Humphry, of Trinity College, an examiner for the Le Bas prize of the present year; to allow Mr. Skinner, of Jesus, Mr. Frere, of Downing, Mr. Birkett, of Jesus, Mr. Rickards, of Sidney, and Mr. Power, of Pembroke College, to resume their regencies; to authorise the Vice-Chancellor to register in the names of the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars, £1300 Eastern Counties Railway guaranteed Stock No. 2, the certificates of which have been transferred to the university for the purpose of founding the Adams Prize.

PREFERRMENTS.—Rev. P. C. Marshall to St. John's Weston C., near Bath, dio. B. and W.; patron, the Lord Chancellor.—Rev. H. J. Morant, to Widham Friary P. C., Somerset, dio. B. and W.; value, with residence, £106; patron, Duke of Somerset.—Rev. F. Bourdillon, to Shipley P. C., Sussex, dio. Chichester, value, without residence, £93; patrons, Rev. L. V. Harcourt and wife.—Rev. T. B. Powell, Vicar of Newick, Sussex, collated to the prebendal stall of Sidlesham, in Chichester Cathedral, vacant by the death of W. P. Woodward; patron, Bishop of Chichester.—Rev. E. W. Dickinson, to Chiselmorrough cum West Chinnock G., Somerset, dio. B. and W.; patron, Earl of Egremont.—Rev. C. Wharton, to Sturry V., Kent, dio. of Canterbury; £219 with residence; vacant by the resignation of Rev. C. R. Handley; patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury.—Rev. J. J. Wilkenson, to Erith V., Kent, dio. of Canterbury, vacant by the death of Rev. R. Davies; patron, Lord Wynford.—Rev. W. Hooker, to Stodmarsh P. C., Kent, dio. of Canterbury, £128, vacant by the cession of Rev. R. Fraser; patron, the Archdeacon of Canterbury.

VACANT.—Loughor R., Glamorganshire, diocese St. David's, £180, with residence; void by death of Rev. H. W. Jones; patron, the Lord Chancellor. Whitechurch R., Pembrokeshire, diocese St. David's, void by death of Rev. G. Enoch, £140; patron, T. Lloyd, Esq., Bronydd, Newcastle Emlyn.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—On Tuesday, the day appointed for the opening of the session of the Faculty of Arts and Laws at this institution, the course of studies was introduced in a lecture by the Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Williamson. The Botanical Theatre, in which the address was delivered, was well filled, the students appeared in academic costume, and the scene was animated by the presence of a considerable number of ladies.

## COUNTRY NEWS.

## PROTECTION TO AGRICULTURE.—NEW SCHEME OF AGITATION.

The Protectionists continue their agitation, and the movement begins to assume some shape.

On Tuesday there was a meeting of the committee of the Reigate Protection Society held at Reigate, the proceedings at which were of some importance, as foreshadowing and taking the initiatory step in the movement which has been resolved upon by the National Association for the Protection of British Industry, with the view of obtaining a dissolution of the present Parliament, and the election of another in favour of Protectionist principles. Mr. G. F. Young, the chairman of the National Association, and Mr. Cayley Worsley, were also present, on the invitation of the committee.

Mr. Paul Foskett, who occupied the chair, explained the present position of the case. At the last meeting of the committee it was agreed that a circular should be sent to those gentlemen in the various counties of England on whom they could place the greatest reliance as the approved friends of the principle of protection to native industry, and, in pursuance of that determination, the following circular had been addressed to them:—

Earlwood Lodge, Reigate, Sept. 20, 1849.

Dear Sir,—I am directed by a committee of the Reigate Protection Society to solicit the favour of your advice and co-operation. We are anxious to learn from you whether, in the event of measures being taken, legally and constitutionally, to obtain "justice to British industry," you would be prepared to carry out a similar plan. It is right that I should state that our first endeavour will be to obtain a dissolution of the present Parliament, believing that such a course to be the only practical method of effecting the desired object. Is it likely that such a step would be immediately followed in your neighbourhood? It has been suggested that meetings in large market-towns and seaports throughout the kingdom would be more desirable than county meetings. Will you favour me with your opinion upon this point also? Forcibly but too clearly the inevitable ruin fast coming upon the agricultural community, through a continuance of the ill-advised and pernicious legislation of the last few years, and well knowing the deep interest you take in the welfare of all classes, I believe it to be unnecessary to apologise to you for this communication.

May I solicit the favour of an early answer, and remain,

Dear Sir, faithfully yours,

PAUL FOSKETT.

In answer to this communication, upwards of one hundred and sixty letters had been received, seven of which only expressed any doubt with regard to the proposal, and three only met it with a decided negative—the three being Mr. Thomas Ellman, Sussex; Mr. Robert Baker, of Writtle, who was not now so strongly with them as he used to be; and Mr. Goldhawk, of Guildford. The whole of the remaining letters were in favour of the course suggested. (Cheers.) At the meeting of the committee to which he had referred, it was also suggested that no active proceedings should be adopted until they had heard whether or not the opinion of the country was with them, and that if this turned out to be the case, they should then take the initiative; but it had so happened that there was no necessity for them to take the initiative, inasmuch as it had already been taken by the National Association, the chairman of which they had the honour of seeing then present. (Cheers.) No sooner had that gentleman returned from the Continent than he summoned the acting committee of the association together for the purpose of doing something for the relief of those interests, agriculturists amongst them, which were now suffering so severely from the effects of free trade. That committee assembled in London the day previous, when it was determined by them that the step which the Reigate Society had proposed, as an isolated body, should be followed out by the National Society. (Cheers.)

Several of the letters received in answer to the circular were then read to the meeting, including one from the Duke of Richmond, one from the Earl of Winchelsea, and a characteristic one from Mr. Muntz, the member for Birmingham, in which the hon. gentleman says:—

I am pleased to learn from it that agriculturists are now aware of the ruin which I have long ago foretold must fall upon them, with free imports and our present monetary system. The former would not have injured them if it had not been assisted by the latter, and the old system of protection only added to the effects of the money system, when there was a short supply, and thereby committed a gross injustice upon all other industry which had to compete with foreign labour.

Mr. G. F. Young, the President of the National Association, in the course of his observations having adverted to Mr. Disraeli as

A respected individual from whom they had already received much good, but from whom he expected much more, if the vivacity of his imagination should not unfortunately prompt him to rush precipitately into a course in which his transcendent talents might be thrown away, thus dealt with that hon. gentleman's new financial scheme:—

Now, when he saw that gentlemen was proposing the imposition of a land-tax and the application of the produce of that tax to some particular end—and he did not wish to speak disrespectfully of it, or characterise it in the course of a period not defined, but which must have been taken up by Mr. Disraeli, and that it would not meet with the universal concurrence of the protectionist classes in the country. (Hear, hear.) He would ask if it had? (Several voices, "No, no.") He was certain that it had not. (Hear, hear.) Well, that had been changed for another proposition, and they were now to have a diminution of expenditure, without a diminution of taxation, the surplus of income over expenditure to be applied to a process which, by aid of a sinking fund, in the course of a period not defined, but which must necessarily be very remote, was to bring that relief to them which they were all so clamorous for obtaining. Now, if they were to reduce the national debt by £5,000,000, and the interest thereon were 3 per cent., how much of annual taxation, he should like to know, would they be thereby enabled to take off, so as to give relief to suffering British interests? (Hear.)

Mr. Young thus sketched out the new scheme of agitation:—

It would not, perhaps, be quite consistent with the position he held if he gave *verbatim et literatim* the resolutions which were come to at the meeting of the committee in London yesterday; but the substance of them he had no hesitation in stating frankly and plainly. It was this. That, in the judgment of the committee, considering the great variety of opinions that prevailed throughout the country, and among the different interests of the community, as to the specific measures of relief that ought to be contended for, and considering that there was universality in the opinion that Protection to all interests ought to be insisted upon, it was unwise and dangerous to pledge themselves, or that the friends of Protection should pledge themselves or contend for any particular measure, but that they should take their stand upon the broad principle, and urge upon all the friends of Protection to restrict their exertions to effect the re-establishment of the principle of Protection as the groundwork and guide of legislative policy. (Cheers.) Protection, then, was their first position. Then they went on to say how they were to contend for it; and that they could only obtain it by the dissolution of Parliament and a change of Ministry. That was a practical corollary. (Cheers.) Then the question presented itself, how were they to procure the dissolution of Parliament and a change of Ministry? The answer was, by the strongest and most universal expression of public opinion that they could summon to their aid, bringing the expression of that opinion to bear in a constitutional manner upon the Crown. That was the next position. Then they declared that, from the information which was before them, town and district meetings throughout the country, united for the same object of addressing the Crown, would be the best means of bringing that pressure to bear. And, lastly, a committee was appointed, whose duty it would be to take the necessary steps for carrying out these arrangements. Thus, through the medium of addresses, declaring their belief that Parliament, as at present constituted, did not express the sentiments of the people—that the policy which that Parliament had followed had produced great difficulty and distress, and threatened ruin to the community—and that they were entitled, as British citizens, to the protection of the British Crown and Legislature—they could call upon her Majesty to give the people an opportunity, by the unequivocal mode of a general election, to place in the Legislature such men as might faithfully represent their sentiments and opinions. (Loud cheers.)

The course adopted by the Committee of the Association, with respect to Mr. Disraeli's financial measure, was as follows:—

To avoid placing themselves in a position of antagonism to that gentleman, they, therefore, passed a resolution expressive of their strong confidence in him and his intentions, and of their extreme regret that they could not give their sanction to the course of policy which he had indicated, and which was supported by so many of his political friends. They also appointed a deputation to wait upon Mr. Disraeli for the purpose of explaining their views.

The adoption of resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting closed the proceedings.

SUPPOSED CASE OF CATALEPSY.—On Friday morning week, at half-past nine o'clock, Mr. Byron Blythe, residing at Orchard-street, Bristol, son of a gentleman of independent property residing in London, and nephew of Mr. Blythe, of the firm of Blythe and Green, the celebrated shipowners, of London, was apparently taken with cholera, and the disease, in spite of medical aid, soon assumed a most alarming appearance, and, notwithstanding the unremitting attention of Dr. Green, Dr. Wallis, and Mr. Kelson, he gradually sank, and about half-past two o'clock on Saturday morning it was supposed that he had expired. When Dr. Green left him late on Friday night, he considered that there were exhibited evident symptoms of his rallying, and at the early hour of six o'clock on Saturday morning he got up for the purpose of visiting him. On his way he was met by a person who told him that Mr. Blythe was dead, but that if he wished he could see the body. Dr. Green was rather surprised at the suddenness of the occurrence, and on examining the body he found that it was still warm. He, however, at the time did not think much of this, and gave a certificate that the supposed deceased had died from the effect of malignant cholera. He added that he would call on the following morning. He did so, and found that in the interim the body had been screwed down, but as the carpenter was present he insisted upon having him unscrewed. The body was covered with sawdust, on the removal of which there were no traces of decomposition, and it was still warm. Dr. Green accordingly ordered that the body should not be interred till he had again seen it, and he proceeded to Dr. Wallis and Mr. Kelson, and informed them of the circumstances of the case. All the medical gentlemen again saw the body at nine o'clock on Sunday morning, and appointed another meeting for twelve o'clock, in the meantime directing that the funeral should not take place. At that time they were accompanied by Dr. Gillow, of Clifton, and Mr. James Ford, merchant, of Bristol, with whom the deceased had been placed for instruction. Mr. Gore, galvanist, was likewise present. The body was still warm, and they accordingly resolved to make some experiments upon it. They first injected the veins with warm salt and water, but without producing any effect. They then subjected the body to powerful galvanic shock, which had the effect of changing the colour and rendering the hands more supple. It likewise produced a frothing at the mouth, but there were no other perceptible signs of life. The body was then ordered to be laid out in the usual manner out of a coffin, and without any sawdust or anything about it. After lying the whole of the night, the extraordinary warmth of the body continued up to Wednesday morning, and the limbs and muscles showed neither the rigidity nor the decomposition of death. At length, on Wednesday afternoon, the true appearances of death began to manifest themselves. The head and face exhibited strong traces of decomposition, and the arms were quite blue. An inquest was commenced on the body the same evening, before the Coroner, J. B. Grindon, Esq.; and the jury viewed it prior to its being interred in the cemetery. No evidence, however, was taken, and the inquest was adjourned for some days, when medical evidence, tending to show the causes of the very extraordinary appearances presented in this case, will be given.

A man named John Deval died last week from the effects of the bite of a tiger, which he received whilst visiting Batty's menagerie at Birmingham fair. Deval was drunk when he entered the show, and he incautiously leant his arm on the framework of the den in which the animal was confined.

## PARLIAMENTARY AND FINANCIAL REFORM.

The "Financial and Parliamentary Reformers" are not behind their Protectionist antagonists in strenuous exertion to win the popular favour, to advance their own especial movement.

A meeting, described as "decidedly the largest, the most enthusiastic, and the most important, which has taken place in Aberdeen for a long time," was held at the Union Hall in that town on Monday night in support of the principles of the Metropolitan Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association. About 2000 persons were present. On the platform were Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P. for Bolton; George Thompson, Esq., M.P.; and Mr. Coningham, late candidate for the representation of Brighton, and a member of the council, who attended as a deputation from the Metropolitan Association. Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P., was also present. Speeches, and the adoption of resolutions of the usual character, formed the proceedings, which were closed by the appointment of a committee to superintend the formation of a local branch association.

On Tuesday a meeting of the association at Stratford was held, at which explanations were given on the freehold land scheme. The council wished to devise practical measures, as it was only through the representative body that any peaceable change could be effected, and it was solely by peaceable means that the council sought to attain its object. The subscription of one shilling a week for a few years would give to the working classes a practical influence in the country. The association was established especially to effect that object, and was proceeding most satisfactorily, and hoped to obtain in the metropolis alone from twenty to thirty thousand members within a twelvemonth. A report, issued by the Birmingham Association, showed the thorough practicability of securing a freehold in five years by means of a weekly subscription of 1s. As a six months' possession was necessary to insure a vote, the association wished to obtain as many subscriptions as possible before January next. Not only could a vote be secured, but the association offered a substantial and safe investment for the working man's savings. In both points of view the object was most important.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT THE GREAT WESTERN COTTON WORKS, BRISTOL.—A destructive fire broke out on Friday night week, at the Great Western Cotton Works, Barton-hill, Bristol, a pile of buildings erected at an immense cost, with a view to the introduction of the cotton manufacture into the west of England. The fire was discovered first, at a little before five o'clock, in the blowing and mixing room—a compartment of the factory in which the first process of converting the cotton from the raw material takes place, previous to its transference to the spinning-rooms, and upon the regular and successful working of which the conduct of the entire manufactory in a main degree depends. This room was filled with complicated and expensive machinery; it gives employment immediately to about 100 boys and girls, but the whole of the hands engaged in the works, numbering about 1800, will be stopped by the catastrophe. The fire was not got under until the part of the building in which it originated was completely gutted, and the whole of the valuable machinery and some thousand pounds' worth of raw cotton reduced to ashes.

## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

## EDWARD, BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.

This learned and estimable Prelate, distinguished alike for his classical attainments, his episcopal ability, and his pre-eminently excellent private life, died on Sunday, the 14th inst., aged 73. His Lordship was son of the Rev. John Bradford Copleston, Prebendary of Exeter, and derived his descent from one of the oldest families in England. There is an old proverbial distich in Devon, allusive to the antiquity of the name:—

Croker, Crewys, and Copleston,  
When the Conqueror came, were at home.

His early education he followed under the paternal roof, with such success, that, at the age of 15, he was elected a scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and within three years gained the prize for Latin verse, which was then the only prize for which undergraduates could contend. In 1795 he became a Fellow of Oriel, in 1797 was appointed College Tutor, and in 1802 had the Professorship of Poetry conferred on him. The substance of the lectures he delivered while filling that chair he subsequently published, under the title of "*Prælectiones Academicæ*." In 1814 Dr. Copleston succeeded Dr. Eveleigh as Provost of Oriel, and not very long after gave to the world his celebrated work on Predestination. In 1826 he was presented to the Deanery of Chester; and, in the following year, became Bishop of Llandaff and Dean of St. Paul's.

We will conclude our brief summary of this distinguished churchman's career, in the words of an eminent contemporary:—"With the close of his career as the head of a college and a leading member of the University of Oxford, it may be said that the eventful portion of his life in a great degree terminated. The discretion and sound judgment which he manifested in conducting the affairs of his see and the duties of his deanery, left little that was open to reproach; while his unassuming and unostentatious spirit withdrew much from public observation, that, if openly displayed, must have elicited more praise than ordinarily falls to the lot even of those who fill the highest places in our Established Church. In none of the duties of private life or of the episcopal office was he in any respect deficient; and if the next Bishop of Llandaff be fortunate enough to incur as little censure, and deserve as much approbation, as Dr. Copleston, he may, indeed, congratulate himself upon a successful and blameless career."

The Bishop has died unmarried.

## LE GENDRE-NICHOLAS STARKIE, ESQ., OF HUNTER-ROYDE, CO. LANCASTER.

The decease of this gentleman is just announced. He was a county magistrate of large landed property, and represented a very old and eminent family, which acquired the lands of Hunter-royde so far back as 1464, when Edmund Starkie, son and heir of William Starkie, Esq., of Bampton, in Cheshire, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Simondstone, of Simondstone and Hunter-royde.

Mr. Le Gendre Starkie was son of Le Gendre Piers Starkie, Esq., of Hunter-royde, High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1806, by Charlotte his wife, daughter of Benjamin Freedy, D.D., Rector of Prington, co. Northampton. He married Anne, daughter of A. Chamberlain, Esq., of Rilsten, co. York, and has left three sons and one daughter.

## ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD WILLIAM CAMPBELL RICH OWEN, G.C.B.

We regret to have to add to our obituary the name of this gallant and distinguished officer, who died on the 8th instant, at his seat in Surrey. He entered the Royal navy 11th August, 1775, being then about 14 years of age, obtained his Lieutenant's 6th November, 1793, and eventually became Admiral of the White in 1848. His services extend, in consequence, over the most eventful period of our naval annals; but, in our limited space, we can only refer to the more important passages in Sir Edward's career.

On the renewal of hostilities, after the peace of Amiens, Captain Owen was stationed, with several sloops and smaller vessels under his orders, on the coast of France, and, by his activity and zeal, kept the enemy in a constant state of alarm, at one time driving their ships on shore, and at another bombarding the seaboard towns of Dieppe and St. Valery. Subsequently, in 1806, Commodore Owen (the gallant officer had then hoisted a broad pendant) superintended a very successful attack on Boulogne, and in 1809 accompanied the expedition to the Walcheren, where he gained warm commendation for the ability and energy he displayed in the arduous duties imposed upon him. In 1815 the Commodore was honoured with the insignia of the Bath, in 1821 appointed a Colonel of Marines, and in 1825 advanced to flag-rank. From 1828 to 1832 he held the chief command on the East India station, and from 1841 to 1845 that in the Mediterranean.

Sir Edward Owen was M.P. for Sandwich from 1826 to 1829, became Surveyor-General of the Ordnance in 1827, was a member of the Duke of Clarence's council when his Royal Highness was Lord High Admiral, and held office again in 1834 as Clerk of the Ordnance.

The deceased Admiral was son of Captain William Owen, R.N., and nephew of Owen Owen, Esq., of Ceven Havod, High Sheriff of Montgomeryshire in 1763; whose sons were the late Sir Arthur Davies Owen, Knt., of Glasnevin; the Rev. David Owen, the distinguished scholar, Senior-wrangler at Cambridge in 1777; and William Owen, Esq., of Glasnevin, King's Counsel. The family, one of great antiquity in the Principality, derives descent from the famed Cadivor ap Dynaval, Lord of Castle Howell.

Sir Edward married, in 1829, Miss Selina Hey.

## CAPT. RICHARD CREYKE, R.N.

This amiable and excellent man will be deeply deplored in the neighbourhood where he lived so long, and where his kindness of heart, his high character, and his extensive charities had endeared him to all. He was second son of the late Capt. Richard Creyke, R.N., Commissioner of the Victualling Office, and Governor of the Royal Naval Hospital at Plymouth, and grandson of the Rev. John Creyke, of Burleigh-on-the-Hill, county Rutland, who was a descendant of the ancient Yorkshire family of Creyke of Marton. Captain Creyke entered the navy in 1800, participated in the battle of St. Domingo in 1806, was present in the operations against Copenhagen in 1807, and accompanied home in 1808 the Russian fleet which had surrendered in the Tagus. He also took part in the destruction of the French shipping in Basque roads, was employed at the siege of Flushing, and assisted in the capture of *La Confiance*, with colonial produce on board to the value of £150,000. He obtained Commander's rank in 1812, and was made Post Captain in 1814. The gallant officer married, in 1818, Harriet Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. James Furneaux, of Swilly, in Devon, and has left issue.

At Glasgow, on Wednesday night, two lads, who slept in a room in which a fire had been left burning to dry the newly-plastered walls, were suffocated by the noxious fumes of the coals. An unfortunate lark, whose cage had been placed in the room, shared their fate.

On Sunday last a sermon in aid of the funds of the Middlesex Hospital was delivered at the church of St. John's, Hampstead, by the Rev. John Jackson, M.A., Rector of St. James's, Westminster, and Chaplain in Ordinary to her Majesty. Subsequently a collection was made, amounting to £57 17s.



## COLUMNS FROM CONSTANTINOPLE.

BY ALBERT SMITH.



PART OF CONSTANTINOPLE, AND THE GOLDEN HORN.

If your readers can imagine a beautiful dissolving view, with a bright blue sea in the foreground covered with fairy boats and noble vessels from every corner of the world, from which a glorious city rises, with a hundred domes and minarets glittering in the sunlight, and graceful trees springing up everywhere amongst the mosques and palaces; if they can imagine this most lovely *coup d'œil* fading away suddenly into another something between an out-door scene in "The Forty Thieves" rather the worse for wear, and the dirtiest part of Holywell-street, in the Strand, when the pavement has been hurriedly relaid over a suspicious pipe, and all the inhabitants have put on the secondhand costumes of masquerade Turks—they may be able to form some slight idea of the difference of emotions excited by the first view of Constantinople from the Bosphorus, and the first glance of its interior. If they wish to realise the notions they have formed of the gorgeous East from flowery authors and vivid artists, let them anchor in the Golden Horn, and, having allowed their eyes to drink in the wondrous beauty of the panorama around them, let them depart again without having set foot on shore, and then they will always believe that of all the seascapes of the world, Constantinople is the most superb, even with Genoa, Venice, and Naples fresh in their memories.

I am not, in this letter, going to commence a work upon Stamboul; but I have thought that a few light sketches of the subjects which struck me most upon my arrival might not be without interest to your readers. Let me mention, by the way, that the view of the Simplon, which I forwarded to you from Milan, has found its way back to Turkey in the *ILLUSTRATED NEWS*, and it has been most correctly engraved.

You land from the steamer in boats called *caïques*, so very light that you are obliged to sit down in the bottom with great care, or else you go over. The oars are balanced by a huge bulb of wood at the handle, as here shewn, and work in a thong of leather slipped round a single rowlock. Both on getting from the steamer and landing, there is great fighting and screaming amongst the boatmen, and you think they are going to murder each other. But they do not; and, having landed, your luggage is seized by a porter, or *hamal*, who carries his knot half-way down his back, and you follow him up the steep, dirty hill of Galata—the Wapping of Constantinople—to Pera, the suburb in which all the Franks, or Christians, reside.

The streets are everywhere narrow, ill paved, and exceedingly dirty. Near my hotel—and I suppose it is the same everywhere else—they are never swept, but the roadway is clogged with dead rats, melon rinds, brick rubbish, and large stones; nor are they lighted, but at night you carry a paper lantern, which folds up and goes in your pocket. You are obliged to do that, or you run the risk of being taken up for a thief. The pavement is very rugged, and, at first, painful to walk about much upon. As for the breadth of the thoroughfares, there is a little street in London which runs from Clara Market to a back gate of St. Clement's Inn, of which I am always reminded when passing through them; and, indeed, its open potato sheds are not altogether unlike Eastern shops. But they are far daintier wares—slippers, pipes, shawls, perfumery, and sweetmeats.

On turning out for your first walk the dogs first attract notice, and then the veiled women. The former, lazy, thin, wolf-like curs, lie about by hundreds, literally, in all directions. I counted ten before one shop. They are nobody's property, but are allowed to multiply without check. They do not get out of anybody's way. They sleep all day, and fight and howl all night, and live as they



WATER CARRIER.

can. Each pack has its own territory; and if an alien intrudes he is terribly mangled. When one dies he is eaten up by the others—an uncommon circumstance, I believe, in canine economy. They may, besides, be considered, in some degree, the scavengers of the city; but this does not appear to be the account on which they are tolerated. If you have to return home late at night, it is advisable to carry a stone or two in your hand, as they occasionally show their teeth.

The appearance of the women, with their faces always muffled up, is, to a new-comer, exceedingly curious. The *yashmac*, or veil, is worn as I have shown. It is of very thin muslin, and does not conceal the features so entirely as we suppose. Some of the women—the Circassian slaves, or wives (for the terms are nearly synonymous) especially—are very beautiful, and these affect the most gossamer texture for their veils. The lustre of their large, floating, gazelle-like eyes is very remarkable, and even coquettish; otherwise the *yashmac* gives rather a corpse-like appearance to the person, reminding one forcibly of the nuns in "Robert the Devil," before their resuscitation. They dye the tips of their fingers, which makes them look as though they had been picking blackberries for an indefinite period; and also prolong their eye-brows with paint, until they meet. They are only seen to advantage in their odd carriages, lounging back and pretending to shrink from your gaze; for their walk is very inelegant. They wrap themselves about with a coarse, cumbersome tunic, and wear a species of large awkward yellow Wellington boot, which is again thrust into a yellow slipper without a heel, and in this, turning their toes in, they contrive to shuffle along, and "shop," which they delight in doing at the drapery bazaars. Here you will see groups of them, having all the goods displayed in succession, and giving the merchant as much trouble as though they were London ladies at an "awful sacrifice."

The bad state of the pavements and narrow streets are not fitted for carriages, or, indeed, things upon wheels of any description. Everything is therefore transported by men, horses, mules, and donkeys—even to timber and paving-stones. These constantly encumber the thoroughfares; and, as they are always laden, especially the two latter, in a most inconvenient manner, and, on the steep hill going up from Galata to Pera, are always tumbling down and shooting over their burthens, the streets are not always passable. As it is, a horse, heavily laden, takes up the entire way; and, when two strings of them meet, a frightful scene of bawling and confusion ensues, and they block up all progress for a longer time than anybody has ever yet had the patience to wait to see the end of.

Every few weeks a terrible fire takes place, and houses are burnt down—not by twos and threes, but always by hundreds, and sometimes thousands. There are two causes for this: the material of which they are composed, and the want of water. To say that they are of wood, gives no idea of their combustibility; an edifice of lath and bandbox, high dried in a burning sun, and overlaid with tiles, would alone equal the rapidity of their destruction. Fire-plugs there are none; and at Pera there is but one public engine ready for use—a little thing, to be carried by two persons when wanted, and certainly not so efficacious as those used for gardens in England. When notice is given of a fire, the *Sakas*, or water-carriers, assemble with their leathern buckets, which are something in shape like a hurdy-gurdy case; with these they fill the engine from the fountains; but they will not stir a step before they are paid. There are few ruins after a fire, because everything is burnt up except the chimnies; and these, being of brick and stone, remain standing, and have a very singular appearance. The Turks learn nothing by experience, but build their next houses up again exactly in the same gim-crack



TURKISH CAKE-SELLER.



DANCING DERVISH.



HAMAL, OR PORTER.



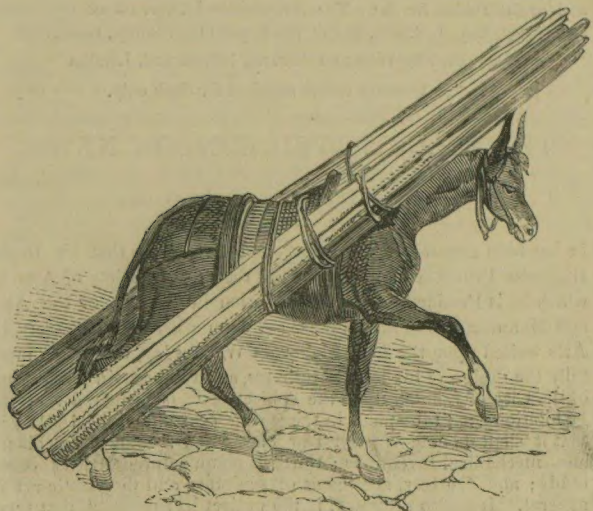
BLACK SLAVE.



C O L U M N S F R O M C O N S T A N T I N O P L E .

manner. High up in the Frank quarter, however, handsome structures are rising, which might rival some on the Boulevards at Paris; but these are as yet unfinished. The fires are the chief sanitary agents. If the Turks were not thus occasionally routed out of their filthy homes, Constantinople would not certainly be so free from the plague as she has been for the last few years.

Many of their graveyards are in the very heart of the city; others, in the immediate suburbs, are miles in length, and overgrown with cypress trees. They are sad, desolate, uncared-for, tumble-down places. The tombstones of the men have turbans on their tops: some of these, lying on the ground, have been knocked



MULE LADEN WITH TIMBER.

off from the monuments of the Janissaries; and the whole tract resembles a field of enormous ninepins. Cocks and hens scratch about amongst them; dogs go to sleep in their shade; and the descriptions given of them in guide-books, as to their picturesque appearance, are—what guide-book descriptions usually are. The bazaars are long covered avenues of shops, each article having a gallery, so to speak, to itself. Thus, there is the drug bazaar, the arms bazaar, the shoe bazaar, the silk bazaar, and so on. But though so many dealers in the same stores reside together, two of a trade never disagree. For instance, in the shoe bazaar with us, each one would be trying to out-placard his neighbours. We should read, yards off, such inscriptions as “Talk about cheap bluchers—look here, at four-and-six!!” or “Prime Wellingtons, 14s.!!” or “Yes, this is the noted



THE STREET DOGS.

shop for gent.'s half-guinea Alberts!!” But here there is nothing of the kind. The merchant sits on his shop-board, with his pipe, or “hubble-bubble,” and scarcely troubles himself to show you his wares; on the contrary, he appears relieved if he has nothing to suit you, and you go away. There is one uniform method of dealing with these gentry. You offer exactly half of what they ask. This they directly accept, when you feel hurt, and offer a still less sum, walking away. Then they call after you, and the bargain is finished. The bazaars are thoroughfares for horses, and some for carriages: at Smyrna I met a string of camels in one. Purveyors of refreshments also circulate through them



PART OF A BAZAAR

—some with grapes, the finest of which, called *chow-oosh* (at least so it is pronounced), are, really and honestly, as large as plovers' eggs; chestnuts, pancakes, and sweetmeats are also sold. *Kebobs* are little pieces of meat spitted on a skewer, and eaten with pepper, salt, and chopped onions, and very nice they are. *Sherbet* is the “cherryade” of our evening parties, sold at half a piastre (about a penny) a tumbler, in which is included a bit of compressed snow. *Pilau* is boiled rice, in which are found suspicious pieces of fat, which it is best to avoid. The most popular strong drink of the Turks (who are not such teetotalers as is popularly imagined) is *rakée*, which, to my taste, is one degree nastier than the French *absinthe*, and resembles bad mastic varnish. The superiority of their coffee is all nonsense. It is a muddy compound, served up, grouts and all, in English doll's tea-cups. Indeed, English crockery is everywhere to be met with, and the old blue willow pattern constantly meets the eye. You can also buy Day and Martin's blacking, Burgess's mixed pickles, Atkinson's bear's grease, Rowland's macassar oil, and pale ale and stout in any quantities. And as I started in a steamer, the other day, from the “Golden Horn,” to go up to Buyukdere, near the Black Sea, amidst the thousand red caps, and the din

of Turkish, Armenian, Persian, Greek, and Tartar tongues, I looked down a hatchway and saw the inscription, “J. Penn and Son, Engineers, Greenwich,” in honest English, upon the engines. They cannot do without us. Maudslay's and Nasmyth's machines revolve and clatter at the gun factory under the able direction of Mr. Taylor; so they do at the mint, to strike off the beautiful work of Mr. Robertson, the chief engraver. Mr. Smith, the architect, has shewn the Turks how to build the most sumptuous palaces; Mr. Langland conducts the Fez (or red cap) manufactory; and if the engineer of the beautiful government boat the *Nile*, in which I expect to go from here to Alexandria, was addressed in any other language of command than “Ease her!” “Stop her!” he would indulge in a series of sound Saxon oaths that would stagger a bargeman.

Near my hotel is the monastery, if I may call it so, of a set of consummate rascals called the “Dancing Dervishes,” who exhibit in public twice a week. There are some two dozen of them; and after bowing and praying, and going through certain ceremonies to very melancholy music and chanting, they begin to spin round and round until ready to drop. They are dressed in white, with felt caps, as I have shewn. There are others over the water, at Scutari, who



TURKISH CHILDREN.



BURIAL-GROUND.



howl and toss themselves from side to side, all of a row and in unison; but the rooms in which they exhibit get so hot and unsavoury, and you feel such a dangerous desire to hit them all hard in the face, that the spectacle only serves to ruffle your temper from the placidity into which a few weeks in the easy-going East has already plunged it. Nevertheless, the sight ought not to be missed.

At the top of our hill, on a piece of vacant ground, cleared by a fire, is a temporary circus. I went the other evening, and was presented with a play-bill in Turkish, Italian, and Armenian; but you may judge my surprise when a regular Mr. Merriman jumped into the ring, and saluted the audience with "Here we are—all in a jump!" I afterwards found the *troupe* had come from Malta. The *prima donna* of the arena, La Signorina Maddalena Guileume, was very pretty; and her unveiled beauty made as great an impression on the Turks as her daring equestrian. She flew round the ring, and leapt over boards, with one foot in a strap at the horse's side—the other now and then touching the ground. The descendants of the Prophet did not applaud, but they said "Mashallah!" and were evidently bewildered. Mr. Merriman himself was an Englishman, and appeared to be exceedingly popular.

I have seen the principal mosques—those of St. Sophia, Ahmed, and Suleiman, but was rather disappointed than astonished. The fact is, no artist represents a foreign "lion" faithfully. Each studies to make an effective, rather than a correct, picture; and even the majority of travellers get infected with guide-book enthusiasm, and write accordingly, thinking that they must fall into raptures with certain objects because others have conventionally done so before them. I have known many who really tried hard to deceive themselves into a belief that something they saw came up to their anticipations, when it had in reality turned out almost a failure. You can only see these mosques by means of a *firman*—a document which costs eight pounds, but then any number may go with it. Some speculating *valet de place* buys a *firman*, and makes up a party; it cost us about six or seven shillings each. In the absence of the Sultan and his Court, we were also admitted to the innermost recesses of the Seraglio; in all places being compelled to take off our shoes before entering. All the windows are blinded with wicker lattice. In a long gallery, where the women take exercise in bad weather, are many pictures to amuse them. I noticed amongst them some engravings from Turner's "Ancient and Modern Italy," Stanfield's "Wreckers," and a large print of Grace Darling.

I shall send this by the French packet, as the Austrian police have an ugly knack of opening all the letters that come through their post, more especially if they are addressed to a journal. And this is a busy time here with all the politicians; the



THE CIRCUS.

refusal of the Sultan to give up the Hungarian refugees, and the departure of the Russian Ambassador, having created the greatest sensation. Soldiers are forming camps about the city; some dozen and a half of fine Turkish men-of-war are lying in the Bosphorus; steamers are kept back for despatches, and everywhere there is much excitement. Meanwhile the English are certainly very popular—that is to say, popular as Franks can be in the East; for the Turks have some notion that we shall support them, and look with comfort to our floating thunderbolts, now lying in the harbour at Malta, with the *Terrible* at their head. At the same time the Sultan's "pluck" has gained him hosts of admirers. I was at a dinner in Pera on the evening that his reply to Russia was made known, and his health was immediately drunk with real enthusiasm.

Finally, let me add, under the head of "Varieties," that quails and red mullet are as common here as pigeons and herrings with us—that to-day is as raw, damp, and cloudy, as any November one at home—that all the stories about sacks, executions, and the Bosphorus, are traveller's legends—that the Turkish soldiers and the Seraskier are not like those we recollect in "the siege of Belgrade"—that the Sultan is only six and twenty, but looks forty, having led the life of a very "fast man" indeed, according to popular report—that everything, even sponge and attar of roses, to say nothing of Broussa silks and red caps, is very dear—that, looking to some of the old coinage, before Mr. Robertson took it in hand, one has an impression that a person with a sheet of tin and a gun-punch could make his fortune; but, on the whole, there is so much to amuse and interest, that, were the journey to cost treble the time and money, such would not be ill spent.

ALBERT SMITH.

Constantinople, September, 1849.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, October 21.—Twentieth Sunday after Trinity. Battle of Trafalgar, 1805.  
MONDAY, 22.—Sun rises 6h. 36m., sets 4h. 52m.  
TUESDAY, 23.—The Royal Exchange founded, 1667.  
WEDNESDAY, 24.—Moon's first quarter, 7h. 4m., A.M. Day breaks 4h. 47m.  
THURSDAY, 25.—St. Crispin.  
FRIDAY, 26.—Hogarth died, 1764.  
SATURDAY, 27.—Sun rises 6h. 46m., sets 4h. 41m.

## TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 27, 1849.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 45	5 05	5 20	5 40	5 58	6 20	6 45
7 10	7 45	8 30	9 10	9 50	10 27	11 0

**ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.**—Proprietor, Mr W. BATTY.—Continued increasing success of Fitzball's New and Grand Equestrian Spectacle of THE PROPHET, the most gorgeous and intensely interesting hippodramatic piece ever produced at the Amphitheatre. On MONDAY, October 22nd, the Performances will commence with Fitzball's New and Magnificent Spectacle of THE PROPHET; in which Mr. W. West will appear. To be succeeded by Batty's brilliant SCENES OF THE CIRCLE, supported by the incomparable Equestrian Talent of this Establishment. The whole to conclude with the popular and domestic Drama of THE DUMB DRIVER.—Box-office open from 11 till 4.—Stage Manager, Mr. W. West.

**LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.—EXETER-HALL.**—The FIRST of a SERIES of FIFTEEN CONCERTS, to be held on consecutive Wednesday Evenings, will take place on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24th. The Prospectus is now ready, and may be had of all Music-sellers, and at No. 4, Exeter-hall. Terms of Subscription:—Area and Platform, One Guinea; Reserved Seats, Two Guineas; Double Subscription, Three Guineas; Stalls, Three Guineas; Double Subscription, Five Guineas. Tickets 1s and 2s; Reserved Seats, 4s; Stalls, 7s.  
JOSEPH STAMMERS, Managing Director.

OPEN DAILY, from Eleven till Five, and EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SATURDAY, from Seven till Half-past Ten.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—Dissolving Views of Rome. Lecture and Experiments with the Hydro-Electric Machine. Lectures on Chemistry. Exhibition of the Oxy-Hydrogen Microscope. Diver and Diving-Bell. The Chromatope. Explanation of Models and Machinery.—Admission, 1s; Schools, Half-price.

**THE MISSISSIPPI and MISSOURI RIVERS**, exhibited, by command, by Her Majesty the Queen, H. R. H. Prince Albert, and Royal Family, at Windsor Castle, New Views, showing the Western Banks of the Mississippi River, Towns, Villages, &c., to New Orleans, being the largest picture ever executed by man. Exhibiting at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, every morning at half-past two, evening at half-past seven.—Admission, lower seats, 2s; gallery, 1s.

**IMPROVED METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY.**—A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY, the 22nd instant, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means of improving the whole Water Supply of the Metropolis, and of placing the entire controul thereof in the hands of the inhabitants themselves. CHARLES LUSHINGTON, Esq., M.P. for Westminster, will take the Chair at Six o'clock P.M. All supporters of physical, moral, and social progress, and the sanitary amelioration of all classes of the community, are earnestly requested to attend.  
October 18, 1849.  
N.B.—Mr. John Loude Taberner, and a deputation from the Metropolitan Water Supply Association, will be in attendance to expound their plan for the attainment of the above great object.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Correspondent."—The salary of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland is £20,000 per annum.  
"Assam."—Edward VI. was the first who introduced the date upon English money—date 1547.  
"A Subscriber."—Hereford.—The impressions sent are from two early British gold coins, which formed part of the extensive find at Whaddon Chase, Buckinghamshire. Their numismatic value is from 11s. to 20s., all depending on the clearness of the type.  
"G. P. R."—Coleford, had better consult a solicitor.  
"California."—can invest any sum in the Funds.  
"M. A. T."—Apply at the Government Annuity Office, Old Jewry.  
"H. S."—Alive, we believe.  
"Un Ami."—See Hart's "Army List."  
"W. K."—Is thanked for the hint.  
"R. G. N."—Kingsland.—The cipher or character in question is a monogram, an abbreviation as ancient as the earliest Greek coins.  
"W. J. S."—Maidstone.—By charter of Edward IV. the city of Canterbury is also a county.  
"E. H. D."—should apply, with the autographs, to Mr. Waller, bookseller, Fleet-street.  
"Ode to Erin."—Declined.  
"X. Y. Z."—Chesterfield.—We cannot inform you.  
"X. Y. Z."—Burke's "General Armory."  
"H. T. B."—The crest named is borne by several families.  
"R. G."—A motto may be adopted ad libitum. A crest, to be used legally, must originate from the Herald's College.  
"A. S."—Lynn.—We will supply the information next week.  
"J. M. B."—The arms of the Chesire family were, undoubtedly, "Erm. a lion ramp. gu. over all a bend sa. besanté." Under the circumstances, our Correspondent had best adopt this coat.  
"Ash."—The Honourable Robert Curzon is heir apparent to the barony of De L'Isle, now possessed by his mother. The title is descendable in the female line, as in the male line. Lady de la Zouche is elder daughter of the late Sir Cecil Bishopp, Bart. (who was summoned to Parliament as Baron de la Zouche in 1815), and sister of the Hon. Mrs. Pechell.  
"A. D."—Hallford, has not, we think, consulted the article "Mortality, Law of" in the "Penny Cyclopaedia."  
"G. B."—Appleby, should address his inquiry to the Wesleyan Times newspaper.  
"Enquirer."—"Sa." stands for "Sable." Any one may choose his own motto.  
"A Scotch Agriculturist."—Duff House, Banffshire.

"A Subscriber of Six Years."—The expense of taking the additional name would be £52 10s. Apply to George Harrison, Esq., Windsor Herald, College-of-Arms, Doctors' Commons.  
"J. N. R."—We can trace no arms in England appertaining to the name of Litherland, which is probably of German origin.  
"J. C."—Birmingham.—Prince Albert's arms are, "Quarterly 1st and 4th: The Royal arms differenced by a label of three points, on the centre point a cross gu. 2nd and 3rd: Barry of ten, sa. and arg. a cross trefoil vert, for Saxony." His Royal Highness's supporters are "Two lions rampant or crowned ppr." each charged on the shoulder with a label as in the arms.  
"J. B."—A Subscriber, York.—The arms are, "Arg. on a bend cottised sa., three lions rampant of the field."  
"X."—The unmarried daughter of an Earl may bear the arms and supporters of her father without a coronet. If she married, her husband would impale the ensigns.  
"W. B. S."—The Amateur Musical Society, of which Mr. H. Leslie, Conduit-street, is the Hon. Secretary; the Choral Harmonists, held at the London Tavern, Mr. C. Herring, Secretary; the Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall, Mr. Bouley, Secretary; and the Cecilia Society, London-wall.  
"Musicius."—Address a letter to the Secretary of the Royal Academy of Music, Tenterden-street, who will give the particulars. The "Révue et Gazette Musicale," of Paris, to be had of Cramer, Beale, and Co.  
"Gravesend."—Handel's oratorio of "Solomon" was composed and performed in Covent-Garden Theatre in 1749; and "Theodore," in 1750; and "Jephtha," his last work, in 1751. He died Jan. 13, 1759.  
"H. B. W."—Glasgow.—The Directors are respectable, and have obtained their Act according to the usual Parliamentary provisions; but we give no opinion as to the merits of the concern.  
"B. Z."—It is not indispensable that an indenture be filled up by an attorney, though it is advisable.  
"J. B. G."—Wingham, had better send a wax impression.  
"Rhinos."—We do not understand your dispute.  
"Cymry."—See Mackenzie's "Emigrant's Guide;" or apply to Orr and Co., publishers, Strand.  
"W. H. B."—Ledbury.—We cannot, with the information sent, advise you.  
"We were in error in attributing the paper on Music, in a recent Number of the Quarterly Review, to Mr. Hogarth; it is from the highly-gifted authoress of "Letters from the Baltic." "A. J." is thanked for her correction.  
"Baucis."—Say No. 34, King-street, Covent-garden.  
"Cape Inscription."—We have not room.  
"Philo-Hahnemann."—We do not know.  
"A German Subscriber."—See the Shilling Red-Books, now publishing by Weale, Holborn.  
"An Inquirer."—The moderns are agreed as to the situation of Scylla, on the coast of Italy; but are much divided as to that of Charybdis.  
"J. S."—Newport.—We consider the chairman to have been right in each case.  
"Omicon."—Knaresborough.—See the "Nuisances Removal Act," a copy of which may be had for a trifle. A builder will aid you in the valve matter. Dr. Arnott liberally gives his invention to the public.  
"S. H. W."—P. mico, is right.  
"Tredagh."—Drogheda.—There should be two witnesses to a will.  
"Lines on the Cholera."—We have not room for.  
"J. T."—Carlisle.—The subscription to our Journal is Six Shillings and Sixpence per quarter, payable in advance. The readiest way for you to remit is by Post-Office order.  
"Cyclicus."—The copyright of a book published in 1820 expired in 1848. An abridgement of a work, without the consent of the author or proprietor, would be an infringement of copyright.  
"M. G."—Manchester, will be liable for the debts.  
"Infelicia."—Cambridge.—Emigration is the only remedy we can suggest.  
"B. C."—We have not room for the lines.  
"J. G. L. B."—No. 1 is a token, and we should say it is in lead, instead of silver. No. 2, Edward III. groat, struck at London. No. 3, Henry IV., V., or VI. groat, struck at London; worth 1s. or 2s. each. The coin of Anne, dated 1701, is not a farthing, but merely a worthless jetton.  
"A Correspondent."—The arms of Richard de Clare, surnamed Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, were, "Or, three chevrons gu. a label of five points as." "Casar."—The expense of a grant of arms is about 75 guineas. There is no penalty for assuming arms without right.  
"A Pleb."—The present Earl of Lonsdale has never been married. Georgina, wife of Henry, third Earl Bathurst, and daughter of Lord George Lennox, died Jan. 20, 1841.  
"A Subscriber from the First."—For the arms of Shutt, apply to the gentleman who married his sister; he will at once supply them.  
"N. W."—Blackfriars, is thanked. The back Numbers in question are 1s. each. We shall be glad to receive the engraving.  
"A Young Artist."—See No. 114 of our Journal, for instructions in Wood Engraving. Inquire at Fenn's, Negate-street.  
"Argumentum."—had better consult a solicitor, or underwriter.  
"D. B."—We think liable, according to the terms he states.  
"Tyro."—Manchester.—Next week.  
"A Subscriber."—D. G. F. D. on our coins signifies "Dei Gratia Fidei Defensor." "Josephine."—The lapse of some forty years has produced the change in the politics of Europe, especially as to "intervention" in continental disputes.  
"A Lancastrian."—Woolwich Common will be sufficient address.  
"Ignoramus."—Esthetics is high feeling, or intimately related to sentiment.  
"Mountaineer."—Is there no motto to the seal? Send an impression.  
"H. W. C."—Mr. Pugin's Catholic Church (St. George's) is not yet finished. It will contain 3000. See No. 326 of our Journal.  
"I. O. U."—See the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK for 1845.  
"Nemo."—The term Strath, in Scotland, generally signifies a valley of considerable size. It is pronounced as written.  
"F. S."—Apply at Graison's drawing academy.  
"Quaestor."—It would not be legal to adopt the arms of the paternal grandmother. A new grant of arms (the expense of which is about seventy-five guineas) would be the only correct mode of proceeding.

## BOOKS, &amp;c., RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.

Health Made Easy.—Bentley on Education.—Adventures of a Medical Student.—Toll and Trial.—De la Motte on Anastatic Printing.—Dr. Muspratt's Flattner on the Blowpipe.

EARLY IN NOVEMBER WILL BE PUBLISHED

THE

## ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK

FOR 1850;

Being the Sixth Annual Issue of this most beautifully embellished and useful Almanack. Illustrated by DUNCAN and other Eminent Artists. The Notes of the Month, by MRS. LOUDON; besides a variety of new and useful Tables, &c. &c. The Astronomical Department by JAMES GLAISHER, Esq., F.R.A.S., and of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

Published by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, London.

\*\* Country orders supplied for Cash only.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1849.

It has been generally known for some time past that his Royal Highness Prince Albert suggested to the Royal Society of Arts, of which he is President, a grand Exhibition in London of the Arts and Manufactures of all Nations. A deputation of the Society of Arts waited upon the Lord Mayor on Wednesday, to explain more fully the design of his Royal Highness, and to ascertain the feelings of the City of London upon the subject. It is proposed that the Exhibition shall take place in the spring or summer of 1851, and that it shall include—firstly, raw materials; secondly, machinery and mechanical inventions; thirdly, manufactured articles of all kinds; and, fourthly, specimens of sculpture and the plastic art in general. It is also proposed, if the project be successful, that there shall be a similar Exhibition every five years. To his Royal Highness belongs exclusively the merit of this idea. Its great utility, its universal interest, and its enlightened comprehensiveness will ensure for its originator the respect, not merely of the British nation, well acquainted with his public and private virtues, but of all the nations of the civilized world, whose citizens shall contribute, by their productions, to the splendour and the success of the Exhibition. His Royal Highness, before asking for the approval of the City of London, solicited, through the Society of Arts, the opinions of upwards of six hundred of the principal manufacturers of the country in every department of our multifarious industry. The answer was unanimous in support of the plan, and especially of that essential portion of it that the Exhibition should be open to all the nations of the world. It is almost needless to add that the approbation of the City of London was not withheld, and that its principal merchants, traders, and manufacturers entered cordially into the views of his Royal Highness, and pledged themselves to lend their most strenuous aid towards carrying them into effect. It is supposed that the sum of £100,000 will be necessary for the purpose; but we should think that treble that sum might be easily raised, in case of need. There is no edifice in London or in England capable of containing the objects that may be expected to pour into this Exhibition from every part of the world—from Hindostan in the one hemisphere, to Oregon and the Hudson's Bay territories in the other, and it will therefore be necessary to construct buildings for the purpose. The space in Hyde-park between Rotten-row and Kensington-gardens has been suggested as the most convenient and appropriate site. The expense of transit will be cheerfully borne by the exhibitors; and possibly the various railway companies, in generous rivalry, will upon such an occasion convey at the smallest rate, or even gratuitously, the specimens of art and manufacture which not merely their own countrymen, but the industrious of other nations, shall be desirous of transmitting to London. We trust that the arrangements of the committee to whom the preliminary details of the exposition will be confided will be careful and judicious; that they will avoid the danger, as one of the speakers at the meeting at the Mansion House expressed it, of engulfing the scheme under its own magnificence; that the judges who shall award the prizes will be composed both of Englishmen and foreigners; and that in all its preliminaries, in its progress and in its results, the exhibition of 1851 may prove a source of satisfaction to every one who wishes well to its principle, and who is desirous that it shall be but the first of a long and brilliant series. There is, however, little or no room for doubt upon these points. The cordiality and unanimity displayed augur favourably for success; and the business tact of Englishmen may, we should think, be safely entrusted with the details. This will be indeed a "Peace Congress," of which the kindly and beneficial influence will be felt among all civilized nations, and which will teach them practically that it is the true interest of every nation upon the earth to remain at peace with each other, to exchange the commodities and information of each with all, and to compete with arts not with arms.

The generals and advisers of the young Emperor of Austria are endangering the stability of his throne, in the moment of their triumph, by their inhuman ferocity towards the conquered. It might not, perhaps, be a political error to commit the unmanly barbarism of flogging women. Such atrocities, though they scandalise Western Europe, seem indigenous in the East, and possibly are not looked upon with the disgust that is felt in more chivalrous and civilised nations; but when such bloody deeds as the execution of the unfortunate Count Bathyni are committed with the sanction of law, it becomes evident that the Emperor of Austria is in bad hands, and that his generals are not only savage men, but very foolish and short-sighted politicians. General Haynau, if not stopped in his career, will undo all that has been done for the pacification of Austria, and will render utterly vain the sacrifices that have been made to hold that empire together. Such deeds are more dangerous to the Emperor's throne than the armed opposition of a hundred thousand men. A large army may be destroyed, but not all the armies of the world can destroy the ill effect of such severity as Haynau has exercised. The blood of Bathyni and the other victims, whose names or numbers Europe does not know, who have been offered up, not to any state necessity, but to appease the vengeance of individuals, will cry for retribution, and plead the cause of Hungary with a voice of thunder, until a new revolution shall break out, more formidable than its predecessor. Modern history offers no parallel to the character of General Haynau. On representations being made to him against these executions, he replied by holding out the parchment which conferred unlimited powers upon him. "They style me," he said, "a bloodhound, a tiger, a hyena; I am ready to take upon myself the responsibility of my acts." "So much is he feared," says a letter from Vienna of the 10th inst., "that the officials in Pesth trembled for their lives because they had not hanged Bathyni at once, instead of postponing the execution for twelve hours." It is truly unfortunate for the Emperor, whose inexperience is necessarily great at his early age, and whose goodness of disposition is highly spoken of, that he should be under the guidance of such men as Haynau. Austria wants statesmen at this moment, and not executioners; and if she do not find them, and that very speedily, the bayonets of the Russians will again be necessary to save her from destruction.



METROPOLITAN NEWS.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO THE CITY.

At the Court of Common Council held on Tuesday last, the Lord Mayor laid before the members the following letter from Lord John Russell:—

My Lord,—I have the satisfaction to inform you that her Majesty will visit the city of London on the 30th inst., on the day of the opening of the Coal Exchange.

To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

Upon which Mr. John Wood, the chairman of the Coal, Corn, and Finance Committee, brought up a report on the subject; and the Court, with loud cheers, referred it back to the committee, with power to take the necessary steps for the reception and accommodation of her Majesty and suite.

At an audience granted by the Prince Consort to the Lord Mayor, on Thursday last, at Windsor Castle, the following arrangements in reference to the Queen's visit were communicated to his Lordship:—Her Majesty will embark on board the Queen's State Barge at Whitehall, at half-past twelve o'clock, arriving about one o'clock at the Custom-house Quay, where every proper convenience will be made for the landing and reception of her Majesty, and a covered way will be formed for the procession to the Coal Exchange. Her Majesty will be accompanied by his Royal Highness the Prince Albert, and, it is hoped, by the Prince of Wales. Her Majesty will return by water between two and three o'clock. No steam-boats or laden craft will be allowed to move on the river between Whitehall and the eastern end of the Custom-house from eleven till four; and it is particularly requested that no guns may be fired on the banks of the river.

PROPOSED EXHIBITION OF WORKS OF ART IN 1851.

A deputation from the Society of Arts waited on the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion-house, on Wednesday, at twelve o'clock, to lay before him and several of the principal merchants of the City, who had been invited to meet them, the proposal of H.R.H. Prince Albert, that a great exhibition of industry of all nations be held in Hyde-park in the year 1851.

The Lord Mayor having detailed the circumstances under which he had been induced to convene the meeting, and dwell on the advantages which the metropolis and the country were likely to derive from the proposed exhibition, called upon Mr. Cole, the secretary of the Society of Arts, to explain the particulars of the plan.

Mr. Cole proceeded accordingly to do so; but, as the circumstances have already appeared more than once in the papers, it is unnecessary to repeat them at present.

Mr. Prescott then proposed a resolution, thanking H.R.H. Prince Albert for the plan which he had proposed, and expressing the willingness of the meeting to assist in carrying it into execution; and, in doing so, entirely concurred in what had been said of the great advantages which might be expected to accrue from the contemplated exhibition.

Mr. Dillon seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., moved a resolution to the effect that the meeting was of opinion that the cost of the proposed exhibition should be defrayed by voluntary subscription, and not out of the general taxation. An experience of more than forty years of public life had convinced him that whenever a Government interfered in such matters they only did mischief. It was of the utmost importance that they should have the sanction of the Government, but it was also of the utmost importance that the whole cost should be borne by those who were to benefit by it, and to carry it out. There could be no doubt whatever that ample funds could easily be found for so great an enterprise. He must say, however, he did not think it necessary that the prizes ought to be large; and he doubted whether it would be desirable that the commission to decide the prizes should be appointed by the Government.

Alderman Salomons seconded the resolution, which was also carried unanimously.

Mr. Masterman moved that a committee of merchants, bankers, and traders of the City of London be appointed to assist in carrying out the proposed scheme.

The motion was seconded by Sir John Pelly, and carried.

**BANQUET AT THE MANSION HOUSE.**—On Monday, the Lord Mayor gave a grand entertainment to the Provost, Magistrate, and Town Council of Edinburgh. Covers were laid for 160. There were amongst the company the Lord Mayor elect, Sir James Forrest, Bart.; Alderman Hunter and Miss Hunter; Alderman Carden and Mrs. Carden; Mr. Sheriff Nicoll; Mr. Masterman, M.P.; Mr. Pearson, M.P., and Mrs. Pearson; Mr. Sergeant Adams, &c. The usual royal toasts having been given and responded to, the Lord Mayor proposed "The health of the Town Council of Edinburgh and Sir James Forrest," whose warm hospitality he had lately experienced, and who had travelled four hundred miles to do him the honour of being numbered among his guests. He had only to regret the absence of the Lord Provost, whose presence would have been a great addition to his happiness; and to express a hope that the performance of his duties as chief magistrate of London had given satisfaction to his countrymen. (Loud cheers.)—Mr. Bailie Melville returned thanks, and did the Lord Mayor ample justice in speaking of his exertions to sustain the dignity and high character of the City of London, by his manly and independent conduct, and by his courtesy and unrivalled hospitality. (Cheers.)

**THE KING'S ROAD, EATON-SQUARE.**—This fashionable locality, so far as regards the central portion of it, called the King's-road, which leads in a direct line to the westward from the Palace, is still, owing to the non-arrangement of the misunderstanding which exists between the local authorities and the owner of the property, left in a state of total darkness. The road lamps are left entirely unlighted at night, which is the cause of much inconvenience and danger to pedestrians, as well as to the drivers of vehicles passing along the road, and which will, of course, not be at all lessened by the advent of dark nights and bad weather, to be expected at the ensuing season. The present condition of the place is certainly very inconvenient to the public, and very disgraceful to the parties concerned, and it is hoped that some satisfactory arrangement will speedily be come to on the subject. Above all things, the inhabitants should remember that they cannot be compelled to pay their paving, lighting, and watering rates so long as the principal thoroughfares in the district are neither repaired, lighted, nor watered.

**SEWERS COMMISSION.**—On Wednesday, at one o'clock, the members of the New Commission of Sewers, appointed under an act passed in the last session of Parliament, held their first meeting in Greek-street, Soho. The following members of the commission were present:—Capt. Vetch, Sir John Burgoyne, Sir Henry De La Beche, Lieut.-Colonel Alderson, Capt. Robert K. Dawson, Edward Lawes, Esq.; Philip Hardwick, Esq.; Capt. Harnes; S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P.; J. M. Rendall, Esq.; Viscount Ebrington, and Thomas Hawes, Esq. The only member of the commission absent was Robert Stephenson, Esq., M.P. Lord Ebrington having been moved to the chair, explained the object of the commission, and the duties of the commissioners, and expressed a hope that a more cordial spirit would be evinced, and a more uniform course of conduct would be pursued by the commissioners and their officers, than had characterised the proceedings of the last commission. The commissioners then proceeded to the election of the officers of the commission; and upon the motion of Sir John Burgoyne, seconded by Mr. Hawes, the secretary and all the officers of the old commission were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. Austin, who tendered his resignation.—The meeting then adjourned.

**CITY COMMITTEE OF HEALTH.**—On Wednesday the Board of Health of the City of London assembled at the Guildhall. The City Solicitor read a portion of the draft report prepared by the direction of the committee; but, before its completion, it would, he said, be necessary for them to give him specific directions upon several points, at present untouched by the draft report. In his opinion, the committee should recommend the court to appoint a permanent committee to superintend the sanitary arrangements which the state of the city required. The committee finally resolved that the report should embrace recommendations:—1. To appoint a permanent corporate Board of Health. 2. To recommend suburban interments. 3. To advise the interdiction of slaughtering in cellars, and to regulate the slaughtering cattle in general in the City. 4. To recommend measures to be taken to improve the dwellings of the poor. 5. To consider an improved water supply, and an improved drainage. The City Solicitor engaged to prepare a draft report by the next meeting of the committee.

**THE ROYAL NAVAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.**—On Monday, the quarterly meeting of this institution, established in 1739, "for affording relief to officers of the Royal Navy, their widows and families, under circumstances of misfortune and consequent distress," was held at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street. Admiral Sir Thomas Briggs, who presided, was supported by a large number of naval officers. Captain Dickson, the secretary, read the statement of receipts and disbursements from July 1st to September 30, 1849. The former, including a balance of £1014 and a sum of £624 for interest, amounted to £1858; deducting expenses, a residue was left of £1265.

**EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF LIFE.**—On Friday night week, shortly before eleven o'clock, an explosion took place at No. 4, Brook-street, Bermondsey, upon the premises of Mr. Barlin, firework-maker, by which four lives were sacrificed, and several persons severely injured. At the time of the calamity thirteen persons were in the premises, when suddenly a loud explosion was heard, which blew the tiles off the roof of the house, forced the windows out, both in back and front, lifted the floorings from their bearings, and sent two children, sleeping in the first floor, out of the window. Immediately a sheet of blue and purple flame issued from the various apertures in the building, from which men, women, and children rushed out, with frantic cries for assistance. The disaster was caused in the parlour, where the parties were at work making fireworks; the snuff of a naphtha lamp, hanging from the ceiling, being accidentally knocked down amongst the combustibles on the table, which immediately exploded. At the moment, the youngest children, James and Alfred (both killed by the explosion), were asleep in the front room upstairs; and three others in the back room. These latter were rescued before the flames, which completely destroyed the house, obtained a mastery. In the search among the ruins there were found, besides the bodies of the two children, who were aged ten and four years respectively, those of James Baldwin, aged forty-five years, who was in Mr. Barlin's employ, and Mr. Barlin's eldest son William, aged twenty. The survivors in Guy's Hospital are, Mr. Barlin, aged forty-six, with severe burns over the arms, face, and head; Mrs. Barlin, his wife, aged forty, face, head, and lower part of the body very much burnt; Charles Barlin, aged seventeen, son of the above, face shockingly disfigured, and arms and chest burnt. Phoebe Wynn, aged twenty-two, extensive laceration of the thigh by falling on some spikes in leaping from the first floor window. This woman, on being extricated from the spikes, attempted to reach her mother's house in Newington, but fell down in the street from loss of blood, and was found in the neighbourhood of Newington, by the police.

LARGE LOSS OF LIFE IN A SEWER.

On the night of Friday week, an accident, which proved fatal to Mr. Henry Wells, surgeon, and John Walsh, a constable of the B division of the metropolitan police force, took place at Willow-walk, Pimlico, where a number of new streets are at present in progress of completion. Near the top of Warwick-street a new street has been commenced, named Kenilworth-street, in which a short branch sewer runs from the main sewer in Warwick-street, and the end of it has been bricked up, to prevent the sewage from flowing into the adjacent fields.

Between six and seven o'clock on Friday evening, fears began to be entertained of the safety of three men who had gone at an early hour that morning into the sewer in Warwick-street, and had not been seen or heard of afterwards. A search for an opening in the street having proved ineffectual for their recovery, or that of their bodies, the end of the sewer in Kenilworth-street, which had been bricked up, was opened for the purpose. Their names were Geo. Pearl, and Attwood, and they had entered the sewer to make the necessary measurements preparatory to having it flushed.

On Monday, at the inquest, the evidence of Christmas, a bricklayer, employed in the search, supplies the following details of the catastrophe. Having stated that, in the first search made from the Warwick-street side, he had felt the bodies of the men lying in the sewer, but was unable to get them out, from the confined limits of the spot, he proceeded: Also knocked down the wall at the end of the sewer with a pickaxe. At this time the deceased (Mr. Wells) was present. I had previously called at his house to tell him what had happened, and that I would take us two hours before we could get at the bodies. When we had broken into the wall in Mr. Cubitt's field, I sent to Mr. Wells to let him know we had effected an entrance, and he returned to the spot. We then went in. Also went in first, then Mr. Wells: I followed Mr. Wells, and Turner followed me. When we had proceeded about 100 feet up the sewer, Mr. Wells complained, and said he felt faint. He turned back, and I also did so, with the intention to let him out; but before I got to the opening in the wall by which we had entered, also called out that the doctor had fallen down. I returned with the intention of assisting the doctor, but saw also coming away, saying he could not stand. I turned again to leave the sewer, but before I could reach the outlet I fell down insensible, and have no recollection of what followed. I believe I was dragged out, and laid upon the bank. Before I was overcome I smelt a strong smell, but nothing uncommon in sewers, or such as to create any alarm. The bodies were found about 300 feet from the opening in Mr. Cubitt's field, by which a current of air was passed through the sewer. The men went in for the purpose of measuring the sewer, and to remove the deposit by flushing.—By the Jury: The heads of the three men were lying towards the Warwick-street opening, as though they had been in the act of returning back when they fell. When I first went into the sewer from the Warwick-street opening I felt no kind of oppression whatever; and when I was seized, after my entrance from Mr. Cubitt's field, I was taken all at once—in a moment. I had not been cautioned before I went in. I had not received any general caution from anybody.

Mr. Nicholas Lidstone, a master butcher, in Brewer-street, who was present at the time the men entered, heard, in a few minutes, a splash and a groan, and he immediately rushed in, and rescued Christmas, who had fallen overpowered by the effluvia. He saw the policeman Walsh go in and bring out the body of Mr. Wells, who vomited a great deal of mud. He was brought to the Clarendon Tavern, and washed, but life was extinct. Walsh's death was caused by his thoughtless gallantry. After the recovery of Mr. Wells's body he immediately returned, and a second time appeared at the entrance, carrying with him a labourer, named Sherwan, who had also been overpowered by the noxious influences of the gases, but whose life was fortunately preserved. A third time he entered the sewer, probably overcome by the excitement of the moment and the stupefying influence of the atmosphere which he was breathing, for his doing so could serve no purpose. The crowd outside waited anxiously his return, but he did not reappear. After some time his dead body was recovered by one of the sewers men.

The bodies of the first three victims (Geo. Pearl, and Attwood) having lain several hours in the sewer, subjected to the influences of the noxious gases, the appearance which they presented, when recovered, was most remarkable, the skin being changed to a colour not unlike that of a bronze statue. They were not got out until three o'clock on Saturday morning.

The inquest was adjourned to Thursday, when it was resumed, and further evidence (that of Mr. Phillips, Chief Surveyor to the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers) showed that the sewer was built by Mr. T. Cubitt, in January, 1848, under the inspection of the officer in charge of the district, and that, so far as the works had gone, the printed regulations of the Commissioners had been complied with. It was a brick sewer, 4 ft. 6 in. long, 9 in. thick, 4 ft. high, and 2 ft. 6 in. wide. It had scarcely any fall; but if it had any, it was into the Warwick-street sewer. The Commissioners had done nothing to cleanse it since its formation. The flushing system had not been applied to the locality; and he considered that those sewers, as having been properly constructed, ought to carry off the refuse of Dr. Ure gave evidence of a character similar to the purport of his report on the subject (given below).

The inquiry was further adjourned. On Wednesday a subscription of twopence each was entered into by the private constables of the police to assist the widow of Walsh, the policeman. The sum thus raised, it is presumed, will amount to about £30. It is also proposed to open a public subscription for Mrs. Wells, whose husband perished on the same occasion.

**THE POISON OF SEWERS.**—At the meeting, noticed in another place, of the newly-formed Commission of Sewers, on Wednesday, the following report from Dr. Ure, of the analysis of a watery green fetid liquor, taken from the bottom of the sewer, at Pimlico, and of a greenish earthy matter, taken from the ground over the sewer, was submitted to the board:—"I find that the earthy matter is the refuse lime of gas-works, impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen, certain prussic acid compounds, and a little ammonia, as hydrosulphuret. These three substances are all exceedingly noxious to life in their separate state, and they are liable to be liberated by the action of the carbonic acid of the atmosphere, to be washed out by the rains, and to percolate down through the crevices and joints of the arched roof of the sewer. That this is the case is demonstrated by the analysis of the water in the sewer, which has exactly the green colour imparted to pure water by the calcareous compound, possesses the very peculiar fetid smell of sulphuretted hydrogen, and affords to chemical reagents the characters of this gas, as also of prussic acid and ammonia. Certain animal exudata may also be readily detected in the said water, as urine, &c.; the whole forming a mixture remarkably deleterious, and emitting most offensive and oppressive exhalations, so that paper dipped in a solution of silver or lead, and held over a vessel containing some of that green liquor, becomes immediately of that glistening black colour, corresponding somewhat to the hue imparted to the skin and blood of persons killed by breathing an air impregnated by such matters. The presence of the prussic acid, or sulphocyanogen poisons, in these effluvia, is a striking peculiarity, proceeding, no doubt, from the layer of gas-lime imprudently shot as a filling-up rubbish over the sewers. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that a very few inhalations in the atmosphere in the said sewer should have caused asphyxia and death in Mr. Wells and the men who accompanied him. I may observe that sulphuretted hydrogen and carbonic acid gas, both present in that sewer, being in mixture with prussic vapour, form an air heavier than that of the atmosphere, and thereby would be found to prevail chiefly near the bottom of the sewer; so that Mr. Wells and his companion, on stooping down to search for the dead bodies of the workmen lying there, would come to inhale the concentrated gaseous poison, and drop instantly down on their faces, in which position their own bodies were observed to lie.—(Signed) ANDREW URE."

**THE RECENT FIRE IN THE CITY.**—On Saturday it was ascertained by the surveyors fired with the different insurance companies that policies to the under-mentioned amounts had been effected at the respective offices for property deposited upon the premises belonging to Messrs. Gooch and Cousens, in London-wall, and which were burned down on Saturday week, as reported in this journal of last week.

The Sun Insurance Company .. .. .	£18,000
The Alliance Assurance Company .. .. .	11,500
The Atlas Insurance Company .. .. .	6,000
The Union Office .. .. .	6,500
The Legal and Commercial .. .. .	15,000
The Imperial Office .. .. .	9,000
Total .. .. .	£66,000

The wool was insured under floating policies, and the above, therefore, covers the stock in certain warehouses in various parts of the metropolis. Upwards of twenty men were busily engaged during the day in getting the immense quantity of salvage out of the ruins, and taking it away to be dried and sorted. This will occupy at least three weeks or a month, when it will afterwards be sold by auction, and there is no doubt it will realise several thousand pounds, which will be divided for the benefit of the several fire-offices concerned.

**BIRTHS AND DEATHS.**—The number of births registered throughout the metropolitan districts for the week ending Saturday last, the 13th inst., was 1271, and the deaths 1075. The weekly average derived from deaths in the autumnal quarter (which commences with the present month) of five previous years is 1162; the weekly return, therefore, now exhibits a decrease on the average, after a period of more than three months, during which it has shown a considerable and, in eleven consecutive weeks, an enormous excess above the usual rate of mortality. The decrease is observed in the west, north, and central divisions; the mortality in the east and south, where the deaths from cholera are still the most numerous, is about the average. The deaths from cholera in the last week were 110; in five previous weeks they were 2026 (the highest number which, exclusive of those from diarrhoea, the epidemic attained), 1682, 839, 434, 288. In last week, the deaths from diarrhoea and dysentery (the mortality of which is more steadily maintained) were 105, almost as numerous as deaths from cholera, and considerably more than usual at this advanced season of the year. The aggregate deaths from these three kindred diseases were therefore 215; whilst the weekly average is only 35. During last week the daily number of deaths from cholera averaged 16; on Wednesday there were only 11. In the districts of St. James (Westminster), Islington, St. Giles, Holborn, Camberwell, and Rotherhithe, no deaths from cholera were registered during the week. In Kensington there were 6; in Hackney, 5; in Bethnal-green, 7; in Shoreditch, 12; in Poplar, 5; in St. Saviour, 6; in Bermondsey, 6; in St. George (Southwark), Lambeth, Wandsworth, 7 each; and in Greenwich, 8. In all other districts the mortality from the epidemic did not range higher than 4 deaths. All other epidemics are at present under the average; small-pox and measles remarkably low; but scarlatina becomes more fatal, the deaths having risen from 39 in the previous week to 56 in the last (the average being 64). Typhus was fatal in 47 cases.

**METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.**—The mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.54 inches; the mean temperature was 46 deg. 7 min., which is 4 deg. 7 min. less than the average of the same week in seven years; it also shows a decrease on the mean of the previous week of 5 degrees.

EQUALIZATION OF THE LAND-TAX.

A meeting of the rate-payers and inhabitants of the united parishes of St. Andrew, Holborn, and St. George the Martyr, Middlesex, was held on Wednesday, in pursuance of a requisition by the rate-payers to the Board of Governors and Directors, to consider whether any and what steps should be taken "to obtain an alteration in the illegal and unjust mode of separately assessing the parishes comprising the Holborn division."

Mr. Hopwood, the chairman of the Board of Guardians, who presided, stated, as an instance of the inequality of the taxation, that he was paying annually a land-tax amounting to £6 upon a rental of between £80 and £90; whereas, had he happened to reside within 150 yards of the spot from which he addressed the meeting, instead of £6, he would, in fact, be paying only about ten shillings.

Mr. P. Southes, a solicitor, in moving the first resolution, supplied the following details respecting the land-tax. It was a tax which formed part of the feudal system, having been levied under the name of "seutage." In the reign of Richard the Second it was levied under the name of "subsidy," and so it continued to be levied down to the year 1670. The "glorious revolution," as they had all been taught to term and consider the revolution of 1688, had the effect of fixing this heavy burden upon them. In 1699 was passed the statute of William and Mary, under which the land valuation was made, and the land-tax became the subject of an annual vote. Under that act the land-tax continued to be levied annually, from 1692 to 1798. The statute directed that the tax should be levied under the authority of commissioners; and that it should be assessed fairly and equally throughout the kingdom; and commissioners were appointed for each county and each division of a county. He would confine himself to Middlesex, and more especially to his own division. In 1798 Mr. Pitt introduced a plan for the redemption of the land-tax. A portion of the tax was actually redeemed. Mr. Pitt contemplated that the whole would be redeemed, but the redemption extended only to a small portion, and the process had been going on from that time to the present. Now it was directed by the act of 1798 that the levy should be made in fair and equal quotas. The county of Middlesex was assessed by divisions. The assessment for the city of London was £3399 6s. 7d.; for sergeants'-inn, £31 4s.—the lawyers, it would be observed, were lot off easily—(Laughter)—for the Inner Temple, £400; for the Middle Temple, £272 10s.; for Lincoln's Inn, £341 7s. 6d.; for Whitehall and St. James's Palaces, £1482 2s. The assessment for the whole of Westminster was £63,970. The remainder of Middlesex was to produce £107,062 11s. 7d. Under the Act of Parliament, a division was made, called "The Holborn Division," in which were included the parishes of St. Andrew, Holborn, St. George the Martyr, the Liberty of the Rolls, St. Marylebone, St. Pancras, St. John, Hampstead, and Paddington. Under the two acts, then, to which he had referred, the commissioners were directed to make, and cause to be levied, a fair and equal assessment. Now they would see how the provisions of those acts had been carried into operation. There were two parishes in the division which certainly had not much to complain of; but the others had a very great grievance to be redressed. The proportions of the land-tax now assessed were as follow:—In St. Andrew and St. George the Martyr £3018 13s. 4d., or 1s. in the pound; in the Liberty of the Rolls, £1437 8s. 8d., or 2s. 6d. in the pound; in St. Marylebone, £564 5s. 1d., or one-eighth of a penny in the pound; in St. Pancras, £1399 8s. 2d., or one farthing in the pound; St. John's Hampstead, £355 17s. 4d., or 3d. in the pound; and in Paddington, £354 6s. 10d., or one-seventh of a penny in the pound. So that, although the Act of Parliament declared that the commissioners should assess the property in the division fairly and equally, the assessment was, in fact, so unfair and so unequal, that it varied from 2s. 6d. to one-eighth of a penny. (Hear, hear.) Surely this could not be tolerated after it became known.

The resolution moved and agreed to was as follows:—

That, as the Holborn division of the county of Middlesex for the assessment of the land-tax, according to the public assessment filed by the commissioners for the division for the year 1799, comprises the following parishes:—St. Andrew, Holborn, and St. George the Martyr; the Liberty of the Rolls; St. Marylebone; St. Pancras; St. John's, Hampstead; and Paddington; and, inasmuch as the same assessment is not made, in the language and spirit of the Act of Parliament, indifferently and equally in the said several parishes within the division by an equal pound-rate, it is the opinion of this meeting that such assessment is illegal and unjust, and that a new assessment, on the principle of an equal pound-rate, ought to be raised throughout the whole division.

The subjoined resolutions were also passed:—

2. That this meeting is of opinion that measures should be taken to obtain an equal and legitimate assessment of the land-tax within the Holborn division.
3. That, in order to meet the expenses necessary for obtaining an equal and legal assessment of the land-tax, a subscription be entered into, and a committee appointed to receiving the same, and for carrying these resolutions into effect.

THE METROPOLITAN BURIAL-GROUNDS.

The following orders have been issued by the General Board of Health to the churchwardens of several parishes in the metropolis:—

"1. That the whole surface of the burial-ground (excepting such parts thereof as are now used as footpaths, or are now covered with flat stone) shall be forthwith covered with quicklime of a uniform thickness of three inches at the least.

"2. That, when any portion of the said lime shall be removed for the purpose of making or digging any grave in the said burial-ground, or for any other purpose, such lime shall be replaced immediately after the filling up of the grave, or the completion of such purpose, and a sufficient quantity of quicklime shall be provided, and from time to time shall be applied so as to keep the whole of the said burying-ground (except the parts above excepted) covered therewith to the thickness of three inches, as aforesaid.

"3. That every grave which shall be made or dug in the said burial-ground shall be covered at the bottom thereof with quicklime of a uniform thickness of three inches at least, upon which covering of lime the coffin containing the corpse, which shall be buried or deposited in such grave, shall be placed.

"4. That not more than one corpse shall be buried or deposited in any grave, and every grave in which any corpse shall be buried or deposited shall be filled up to the level of the ordinary surface of the said burial-ground immediately upon the corpse being buried or deposited therein; and no further burial shall take place in the same grave, nor shall any other corpse be deposited therein.

"5. That no corpse shall be buried or deposited in any grave in the said burial-ground at a less distance than two feet and six inches from any other grave, such distance to be computed from that part of the coffin containing such corpse which is nearest to such other grave.

"6. That no corpse shall be buried or deposited in any grave in the said burial-ground in which after the burial or deposit thereof there shall not be at least five feet of earth remaining between the ordinary surface of the said burial-ground and the upper part of the coffin in which such corpse shall be contained.

"7. Provided always, that the foregoing directions and regulations which are respectively numbered 3, 4, 5, and 6, shall not apply to burials in stone or brick graves, vaults, or catacombs.

"8. That no corpse shall be deposited in any stone or brick grave, vault, or catacomb in the said burial-ground, or in any vault or receptacle connected therewith, unless such corpse shall be enclosed in a coffin made of or lined with lead of the weight of six pounds to every superficial square foot, and of the thickness throughout of one-tenth of an inch, nor unless such coffin or lining be soldered up, or otherwise secured so as to be perfectly air-tight.

"9. That if, in making or digging any grave in the said burial-ground, or in opening any part of the said burial-ground for any purpose whatever, any human bone, or other part of a human body, or any coffin or portion of a coffin shall be found, or become visible, the earth that shall have been disturbed by such making, digging, or opening shall be forthwith filled in and covered with quicklime to the depth of at least three inches, in addition to the uniform thickness of lime with which the surface of the said burial-ground is heretofore ordered to be covered.

"10. That no grave shall be made or dug, nor shall the ground, for any purpose, or upon any pretence, be opened in any part of the said burial-ground where a corpse has been buried or deposited within ten years next last past.

The burial-grounds named are:—The Crossbones, Redcross-street, Southwark; Tottenham-court-road Chapel ground; Churchyard of St. Olave and St. John, Tooley-street, Southwark; St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark; Ray-street, Clerkenwell; St. Paul, Covent-garden; St. Giles-in-the-Fields; New Bunhill-fields; Collier's Rents, Southwark; St. John, Clerkenwell; and the ground in Benjamin-street; St. Mary, Newington; Thomas's burial-ground, Golden-lane, St. Luke's; and Tavistock burial-ground, Drury-lane.

**THE POST-OFFICE.—DESECRATION OF THE SABBATH.**—A memorial from the Archdeacon and clergy of the Archdeaconry of Middlesex to the Lords of the Treasury against the increase of Sunday duty at the Central Post Office, has been already signed by 198 clergymen of the metropolis and neighbourhood. The memorialists, without pronouncing any opinion as to the intention of the Post-office authorities, express their earnest hope that Government, instead of carrying the proposed arrangements into effect, will make a movement in the opposite direction, and afford additional facilities for the observance of the Lord's day; "a course which," as they observe, "Christian principles and sound policy unite in recommending, and to which the present strong demonstration of religious feeling on the part of the people affords every encouragement."

WINDSOR CASTLE.

The return of the Court to Windsor suggests the resumption of our series of Illustrations of the truly Royal Castle.

THE NORTH TERRACE.

In the first scene is shown a portion of the North Terrace, with the view of Eton College, with its "distant spires" and "antique towers," and

The expense below

Of grave, of lawn, of mead,

which the poet Gray has enshrined in his delightful "Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College." This noble Terrace was built by Queen Elizabeth; and before the laying out of the Eastern Garden and Terrace, it was the great promenade of visitors, when George the Third was King. The prospect is one to dwell upon. "The glorious view from the North Terrace (says one well acquainted with every nook and corner of the locality), how can it be comprehended in half an hour? The river is glowing under the setting sun; a flood of light bathes all the west, and the distant hills of Berkshire and Oxfordshire mingle their gold with the golden sky. Come here in the grey morning, and the Thames shall creep like a silent thread through the green plain, sending up its vaporous wreaths to mingle with the blue mists of the distance."—*The Land and the Sea.*

STATE APARTMENTS.—THE QUEEN'S AUDIENCE CHAMBER.

This is the first of the suite of apartments to which the public are admitted. The ceiling of the chamber bears one of the allegorical compositions in which Verrio revelled, to delight his Royal patron, Charles II. The allegory is Queen Catherine as Britannia, advancing to the Temple of Virtue, in a car drawn by swans, and accompanied by Ceres, Flora, Pomona, &c.;



## W I N D S O R C A S T L E .

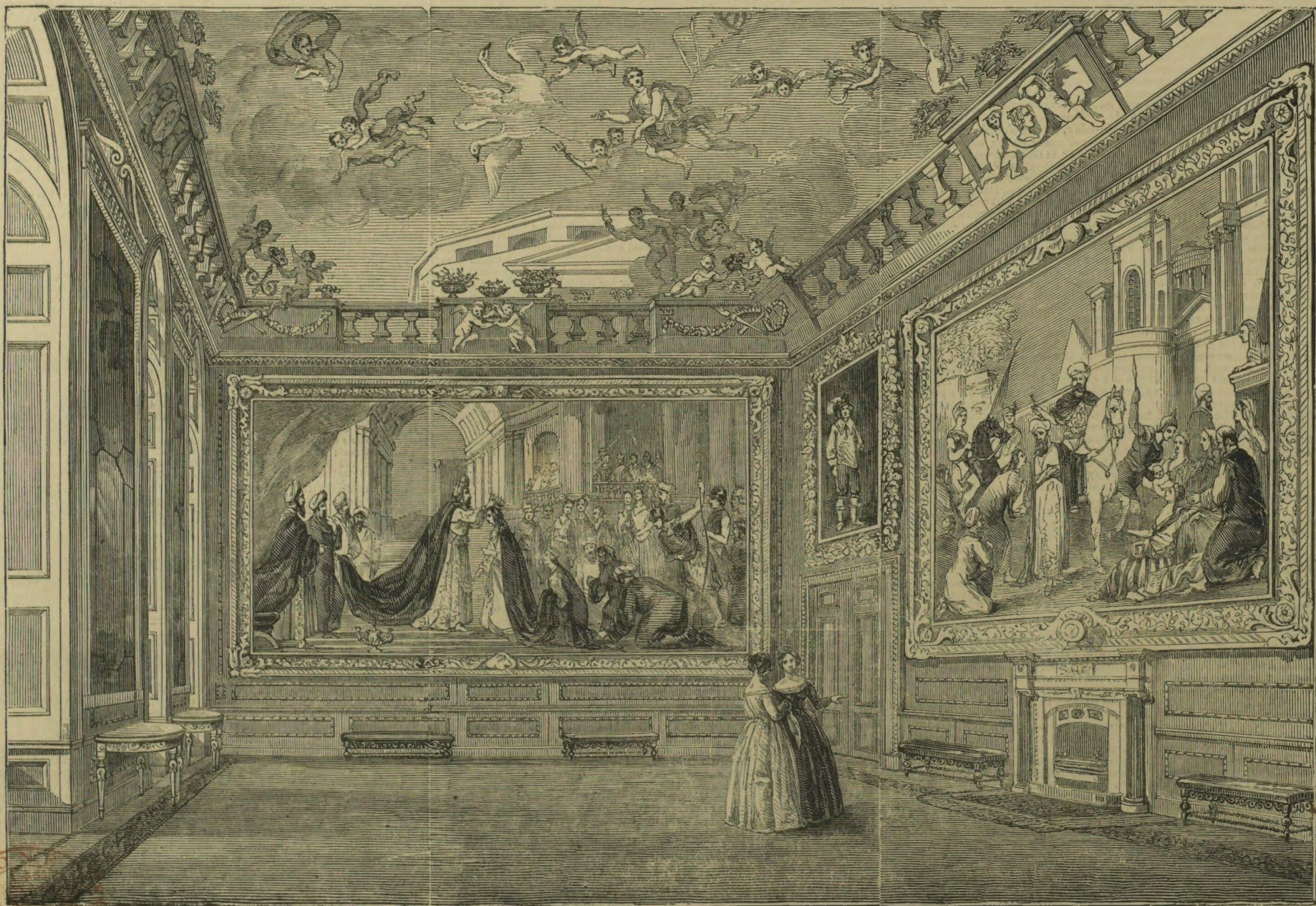


PART OF THE GREAT TERRACE, AND VIEW OF ETON.

the minor decorations of the ceiling being heightened with gold. Upon the walls are three fine specimens of Gobelin tapestry, representing a portion of the history of Esther. In one compartment, the maiden is being placed in the care of Hegai, keeper of the women; in the centre, over the fireplace, is represented the Triumph of Mordecai; and in the third piece, occupying the west end of the room, Ahasuerus is placing the crown on the

head of Esther. Over the doorways of the room are three fine paintings, in frames of Gibbons's richest carving. Two of these are portraits of Frederick Henry, Prince of Orange, "the Father of the Soldiers," who died in 1647; and William, Prince of Orange, son of Frederick Henry, and father of William III., King of Great Britain: both these portraits are by Gerard Honthorst. The third picture is a very interesting whole-length portrait of Mary

Queen of Scots, in a mourning habit, with a crucifix in her right hand and a breviary in the other: in the background is represented her execution at Fotheringhay. The painting bears three long inscriptions. It has lately been engraved, by permission of her Majesty, as the frontispiece to Mr. Mackie's "Castles, Palaces, and Prisons of Mary, Queen of Scotland;" a work fully entitled to the high patronage under which it has been produced.



STATE APARTMENTS.—THE QUEEN'S AUDIENCE CHAMBER.



THE VINTAGE IN TUSCANY.



GRAPE GATHERING.

How beautiful are the vines when married, as here, and trained round the field, from tree to tree, in double and interesting festoons! How greatly they exceed, as a picture, the common vineyard, which looks at a distance like a field of turnips!—*Forsyth's "Italy."*

TUSCANY has been styled the Paradise of Bacchus; and it would almost exhaust language to describe its luxuriant and picturesque beauty. Leigh Hunt, in the notes to his translation of "Bacco in Toscana," says: "The vines of the South seem as if they were meant to supply the waste of animal spirits occasioned by the vivacity of the natives. Tuscany is one huge vineyard and olive-ground. What would be fields and common hedges in England, are here a mass of orchards, producing wine and oil, so that the sight becomes tiresome in its very beauty. About noon, the labourers,

peasantry, and small shopkeepers in Tuscany may be imagined taking their flask of wine. You see them all about Florence fetching it under their arms. The effect is perceptible after dinner, though no disorder ensues; the wine being only just strong enough to move the brain pleasantly, without intoxication: a man can get drunk with it if he pleases; but drunkenness is thought as great a vice here as gallantry is with us."

It has been pertinently remarked by a popular writer, that "a vineyard, associated as it is with all our ideas of beauty and plenty, is, in general, a disappointing object. In France, the vines are trained upon poles, seldom more than three or four feet in height; and the 'pole-clipped vineyard' of poetry is not the most inviting of real objects. In Spain, poles for supporting vines are not used; but cuttings are planted, which are not permitted to grow very high, but gradually form thick and stout stocks. In Switzerland, and in the German

provinces, the vineyards are as formal as those of France. But in Italy is found the true vine of poetry, surrounding the stone cottage with its girdle, flinging its pliant and luxuriant branches over the rustic veranda, or twining its long garland from tree to tree." It was the luxuriance and beauty of her vines, and her olives, that tempted the rude people of the North to pour down upon her fertile fields:—

The prostrate South to the destroyer yields  
Her boasted riches, and her golden fields;  
With grim delight, the brood of winter view  
A brighter day, and heavens of azure hue—  
Scent the new fragrance of the breathing rose,  
And quaff the pendant vintage as it grows.

Associated, too, as Italy is with all the classic lore of mythology, where



THE GRAPE CART.



Sweet is the vintage, when the showering grapes,  
In bacchanal profusion rest to earth.  
Purple and gushing: sweet are our escapes,  
From civic revelry to rural mirth—

we might reasonably expect to find the choicest wines among the produce of her delightful climate. Yet, such is not the case; for, in proportion as nature has been more bountiful here than in other countries, have the culture of the plant, and the manufacture of the wine, been neglected by the indolence of the people. The vines are left to luxuriate amidst fences, or the boundaries of fields, and this rude growth supplies the Italian peasant with sufficient wine for his own consumption. Even where cultivation is attempted, the vine appears to be a secondary object; the roads in some parts of Italy being bordered with vine-branches, drawn in festoons from elm to elm, not only bounding the enclosures, but traversing them in lines so near to each other, that, in England, nothing could grow beneath but rank and rushy grass. Here, however, are sown grain, or artificial grasses, and various sorts of garden vegetables; the shade of Italy being as productive as the sunshine of England. Again, such pictures of neglect as the following are by no means rare among the delights of an Italian villa:—"There was a long trellis, over which vines were trained; under this was a walk, but the place was so suffocating, that it was not worth while to desire the gardener to clear away the weeds, with which, as they hindered not the ripening of the grapes, he allowed the walk to be encumbered."

The process of wine making is better understood, and a greater number of good wines are produced in the Tuscan dominions than in any of the other states of Italy. The Grand Dukes have taken considerable pains to improve their vineyards, by importing the best species of vines from other countries, as, for instance, from France, Spain, and the Canaries; and the wines made at their villas show that their labours have been attended with considerable success. According to Redi's patriotic diatribe, entitled "Bacco in Toscana," the wines of Tuscany are the first in the world; and they perhaps might be, if a better choice were displayed in the soils appropriated for their growth, and if greater science were displayed in the fermentation. That it is not from ignorance on the former of these points that the Tuscans so often err, appears from several passages of the poem just mentioned, in which the author anathematizes those who first dared to plant the vine on low soils, and celebrates the excellence of the juice which flows

—dall' uve bruno  
Di vigne sassosissime Toscane.

"Among the ancient laws of the city of Arezzo," he remarks in a note, "was one granting free permission to plant vines on such hills as were calculated to produce good wine, but strictly prohibiting the cultivation of them on the low grounds destined to the growth of corn." The injudicious method, also, of training the vine excites his just indignation.

In the description of Tuscan wines much confusion has arisen from not attending to their different qualities. As the press is little used, and the grapes have, in general, attained their full maturity, being, besides, in the case of the choicer wines, dried for six or seven weeks within doors before they are trodden, the first juice (*mustum hibernum*) necessarily abounds in saccharine matter, and the wine procured from it will consequently belong to the sweet class. But, when this is drawn off, it is customary to add a quantity of water to the murk, which after a short fermentation, yields a very tolerable wine; and a repetition of the process furnishes an inferior sort. In this way a great proportion of the ordinary wines of the country are made; but all the choicest growths, all the *vins d'entremets*, are more or less sweet.

#### THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The pair of graceful pictures has been chosen by our artist from a Vineyard between Florence and Vallombrosa. In the first view, the Vineyard, the gathering of the grapes is in progress; and, to the right, the fruit is being placed in rough open tubs, into which the "wine-maker" is ramming the rich and luscious bunches, the press being, as already stated, but little used in the Tuscan vintage. This is a charming scene of the vineyard and the distant hills; the figures are characteristic, even to portraiture, though these elegant forms of the children of the "sunny south" might, but for this explanation, lead some to regard them merely as a composition.

In the companion picture, we have the Grape-Cart, drawn by oxen, a feature of bucolic simplicity. They are guided by rope reins fixed to rings, which are inserted in their nostrils: "Sometimes," says Mr. Forsyth, "two hocks joined like pincers are used, like the postoms of Lucillus, which has teased so many antiquaries." The right-hand figures are from the peasantry. The broad-eaved buildings, the vine flinging its luxuriance over the wall, and the distant poplars, are so many characteristic accessories to this genuine Italian landscape.

#### FINE ARTS.

FISHER'S DRAWINGROOM SCRAP-BOOK. 1850. By CHARLES MACKAY, LL.D. Peter Jackson, London and Paris.

This monarch of the Annuals has outlived nearly all his race—beautiful and numerous as once were the triumphs of Art and Song, of Illustration and Romance, that, at the present season of the year, were wont to begin to stud our drawingroom tables with

The beads of memory's rosary,  
Whereon she reckons kind remembrances  
Of friends and old affections.

The artistic wealth of the present volume numbers some thirty-five large quarto plates and a vignette, exquisitely engraved on steel. "Cheerfulness," the frontispiece, is a group of three gracefully joyous figures, by Parris; one equipped with bow and quiver, the second with hunter's horn, and the third bearing a basket of rich fruit—the trio emerging into a woody dell to drink "the pure pleasures of the rural life." The opposite vignette (by Topham) is full of poetic melancholy; it is a scene of shipwreck, with the foundering hull, the sea breaking over the once proud mast, now prostrate upon the sands, while sea birds pour forth their plaintive wail over the desolation—their white forms gleaming in the dark clouds of the stormy horizon.

The volume opens with an invocation to "the Harp of Erin," the illustration being the Genius of Ireland, and a companion figure, seated upon a rock, the former with her national harp; in her hair and around her arm she wears the shamrock, and her foot rests upon the shank of an anchor, the emblem of Hope, whilst the distant ocean betokens a favourable gale. This well-timed composition is from the pencil of Mr. Parris. Mr. Cattmole has contributed "the Grave of Pride"—a stately tomb in a cathedral, the mailed effigy lying upon its top, and a monk kneeling in devotion at its base. This is a scene of gloom and grandeur, illumined with a few bright lights, the better to show the sad scene to which human pride "must come at last;" it is full of touching poetry. "The Offered Flower" is one of Mr. J. W. Wright's richly-costumed and fair creations, playfully presenting a rose. "The Anglers" is a charming mountain stream, by Allom. Three portraits—Lamartine and the President Louis Napoleon, and Lord Gough—are seasonable enough. The "Lake D'Oo," high Pyrenees, is another of Mr. Allom's sublime scenes. "Ellen Evelyn" is a figure, mask in hand, reclining within a gondola; it is a characteristic composition by J. Hayter. "The Serenade," a pair of watching figures, beneath a jalousie, is by J. Herbert. "The Fall of Manna" is from N. Poussin's celebrated picture. "The Festival of the Dragon Boat" is the gorgeous Chinese scene, by Allom. "The Prado, Madrid," by Miss Fanny Corbeaux, is accompanied by some playful lines by Lady Blessington. "The Brides of Venice," by Mr. Herbert, has a dramatic fragment by J. A. Herand. "Faithful Gelert," watching over a gentle child, is by Maclise; and "Fond of the Country," a youthful beauty, by J. Hayter. We have only space to name three others—"The Carousal," and "Raising the Standard," and "The Minstrel's Song," each by Cattmole, and worthy of his high reputation. The latter, a fine Rembrandtish scene, has the following accompaniment by the Editor:—

#### WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

Great William spread before him  
All his stores of wealth untold—  
Diamonds, emeralds, and rubies,  
Hoards on hoards of mingled gold.  
Mournfully he gazed upon it,  
As it glitter'd in the sun,  
Sighing to himself, "O treasure!  
Held in care, by sorrow won,  
Millions think me rich and happy;  
But, alas! he who me pined,  
I would give thee ten times over  
For the slumbers of a child."

Great William from his turret  
Heard the martial trumpet blow;  
Saw the crimson banners floating  
Of a countess' host below;  
Saw their weapons flash in sunlight,  
As the squadron trod the sward;

And he sigh'd, "O mighty army!  
Hear thy miserable lord!  
At my word thy legions gather—  
At my nod thy captives bend—  
But with all thy power and splendour,  
I would give thee for a friend."

Great William stood on Windsor,  
Looking from his castle height,  
O'er his wide-spread realm of England,  
Glittering in the morning light;  
Looking on the tranquil river,  
And the forest waving free,  
And he sigh'd, "Oh! land of beauty,  
Fondled by the circling sea,  
Mine thou art, but I would yield thee,  
And be happy, could I gain,  
In exchange, a peasant's garden,  
And a conscience free from stain!"

The majority of the lyric accompaniments to the several plates are from the pen of the Editor: they are graceful compositions, appropriate to the artistic fancies.

APPROACHING MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—The nuptials of the Earl of Winchelsea and Miss Rice, the eldest daughter of Edward Royd Rice, Esq., M.P. for Dover, are expected to be solemnised towards the end of this month. A matrimonial alliance is said to be about to take place between the Earl of Kintore and Sarah, daughter of the late Sir John Dugdale Astley, of Everleigh, Bart., and sister to the Viscountess Torrington. The marriage of Paulist St. John Midway, of Hayley Grove, in the county of Somerset, Esq., grandson to the late Sir Henry St. John Midway, of Dogsmerfield Park, Bart., and Caroline Adeline, daughter of the late Orlando and Lady Lucy Standish, and granddaughter to the Countess Dowager of Limerick, will, it is said, be solemnized in the course of the ensuing month.

By an act passed in the late session, an alteration was made in the manner of giving rewards to Custom-house officers on making seizures. The act in question (12 and 13 Vic., cap. 90) declares it to be expedient that power should be given to the Commissioners of the Treasury and the Commissioners of the Customs to alter and vary the distribution of such rewards in such cases as they may think fit, and accordingly power is given to them by a specific section.

Hudson, the Irish comedian, has been several times hissed lately in New York, in the representation of his favourite characters, on the ground that he exaggerates them. He was in consequence compelled to come forward and state that the comedies would be altered so as to avoid the obnoxious parts.

#### THE THEATRES.

##### ADELPHI.

"Mrs. Bunbury's Spoons" is the name of a *pièce de circonstance*, by Mr. Sterling Coyne, produced on Monday. It is an adaptation of the "Pas des Patineurs," in the shape of an extravaganza. Mrs. Bunbury, herself, a confectioner, is supported by Mrs. F. Matthews. Between her and her baker, Job Smith (Mr. O. Smith), an amorous *embroglio* is promoted and aggravated by a lawyer, Mr. Highbury Barnes, and Bob Twinks, his clerk (Mr. Paul Bedford and Mr. Wright). The fun, it may be readily conceived, is "fast and furious." A fancy-ball on the frozen lake at the Surrey Zoological Gardens gives occasion to a skating scene, in which these worthies appear in grotesque costumes—Mrs. F. Matthews as an Hungarian, Mr. Bedford as a Titanic harlequin, and Mr. O. Smith as a devil. A piece of this practical character is certain to excite riotous merriment: the applause at the conclusion was, indeed, remarkable for its vehemence. Some *tableaux* in the course of the performance were skillfully grouped, and the dances gracefully executed.

##### LYCEUM.

A new but not original piece, under the title of "a Lady in Difficulties," has been produced here. It is a translation of the *comédie-vaudeville*, "Le Chevalier d'Esnonne," by Mr. Planché, who has reduced the original from three acts to two. The interest in the *vandeville* turns on a French lady assuming masculine attire, by which she is brought into trouble with the *Vicomte de Nangis*; on whom, however, she ultimately bestows her hand. The adapter has transferred the scene to Prussia, and the names of the persons are accordingly altered. The female chevalier becomes *Madame Denhoff* (Miss Gilbert); and the military lover, *Count Nantemar* (Mr. C. Matthews), whose reckless behaviour is well personated by this lively actor. The little drama was successful, though not very exciting either in its plot or conduct.

##### SURREY.

We are glad to find, that, owing to the success of "Richelieu," the performance of that play has been continued during the whole of this week, as well as the last. On next Monday the system of producing entirely new pieces at this theatre will commence. The series will be inaugurated by a poetic drama, in three acts, entitled "The False Position," and written in conjunction by Mr. Westland Marston and Mr. Bayle Bernard.

##### PRINCESS.

Miss Louisa Pyne has considerably added to the favourable notions entertained of her *début* in *Zerlina*, in Mozart's "Don Giovanni," by her interesting performance of the sleep-walking heroine of Bellini's opera—*Amina*. It is not that her delineation is distinguished by histrionic genius or much dramatic impulse, but there is a quiet naturalness in her acting which pleases and becomes sometimes touching. It is grateful to be relieved now and then from the conventional stage trammels; and, although Miss Pyne's version is the most tranquil that can be conceived, and is marked by a certain awkwardness, it makes its way, and awakens the sensibilities of her auditory. Her vocalisation demands almost unqualified eulogium. If nature have bestowed on her but a moderate degree of power, there is quite enough vigour for the size of the theatre, thanks to the conductor's careful subduing of the accompaniments. It was in the opening cavatina and in the concluding scene that Miss Pyne achieved her greatest successes. Her interpretation of the slow movement of the latter was highly artistic; and she poured forth a series of florid divisions, terminating with a brilliantly-articulated shake in the upper octave, with admirable precision, creating quite a sensation in fact by her neat and facile execution.

Mr. Macfarren's new opera, founded on the popular comedy of "Charles the Second," will be the earliest operatic novelty. It is to be produced in the course of the ensuing week. Madame Macfarren will make her first appearance on the stage, in the part of the *Page*. *Mary Copp* will be represented by Miss Louisa Pyne. The Merry Monarch is to be enacted by Mr. Harrison, Rochester by Mr. Corri, and *Captain Copp* by Mr. Weiss.

In the course of next week, the long-announced revival of "Antony and Cleopatra" will take place at SADDLER'S WELLS. It will, we understand, be mounted in superb style; and, having been in rehearsal with great care, is expected to be, in all respects, a complete performance.

#### MUSIC.

The Prospectus of the London Wednesday Concerts, and the circulars of the Sacred Harmonic Society and London Sacred Harmonic Society, have been issued. These programmes are deserving of attention. The directors of the Exeter-Hall LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS dwell with exultation on the unparalleled success of the past season, twenty-seven concerts having been given, which were attended by 60,000 persons, and which ensured the payment of upwards of £3000 for professional services alone. It is gratifying to find that the directors pledge themselves "to raise by every means the character and quality of the entertainment; and while they can hardly hope that it shall please all, they will be careful that it shall be so conducted as to offend none." Of this promise of improvement we take a note: we called upon the directors last year to select their schemes to elevate the taste of the masses, and not to pander to the now almost exploded pot-house style of ballad-mongering. Amongst the *artistes* engaged are—Mrs. A. Newton, Misses Rainforth, Dolby, Lucombe, A. and M. Williams, A. Nunn, R. Isaacs, Nelson, Huddart, and Poole; Messrs. Lockey, Land, Binge, Frodsham, and Braham; Herr Formés (exclusively engaged for these concerts); Signori Ronconi, F. Ronconi, and Bartolini. Sims Reeves is promised, "if the delicate state of his health will permit;" but as the English tenor is now singing in great force in opera, with Miss Lucombe and Mr. Whitworth, it may be presumed that he will be forthcoming. Mr. Bridge Frodsham is an amateur tenor, whose *début*, it is rumoured, will make no small sensation. Ronconi's advent we take to be doubtful; he was last week in Italy, and as he has to open the Italian Opera House in Paris, on the 6th of November, he can, at all events, only sing here one evening. Braham is announced for eight farewell concerts, when he is to retire into private life. The directors announce that negotiations are pending with the celebrated Madame Pleyel, Ernst the violinist, and Vivier. The solo instrumentalists actually engaged are M. Thalberg, Misses Day, Woolf, Ward, Mr. W. S. Bennett, and Mr. W. H. Palmer (pianists); and the Distins, who have just returned from their trip to the United States; Messrs. G. Collins, V. Collins, Jarrett, Ribas, Richardson, Sain-ton, Piatti, Nicholson, and Inckermann. Here is attraction enough, with tact and taste in the selection of music, to sustain the popularity of these novel concerts. Next Wednesday (the 24th) will be the opening concert, to be continued every consecutive Wednesday up to January 30, 1850. The series of fifteen may be subscribed for at a reduced tariff.

The committee of the SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY announce the opening of the season on Monday, November 12, the centenary of the production of Handel's oratorio "Solomon," which will be, therefore, performed, supported by the Misses A. and M. Williams, Miss Stewart, Messrs. Lockey and Lawler. "In announcing," states the circular, "the commencement of a new season, the committee advert, with much gratification, to the unanimously expressed opinions as to the great improvement which has taken place in the society's performances, since the appointment of Mr. Costa to the office of conductor, and express their confident expectation that, under the same able direction, the performances of the coming season will attain a still higher degree of excellence. The committee hope to include in the performances of the ensuing season the following favourite works; viz. Handel's "Solomon," "Messiah," "Israel in Egypt," "Saul," Mendelssohn's "Elijah," "St. Paul," "Lauda Sion," Spohr's "Last Judgment," Haydn's "Creation," and some of his church music." The committee also intimate that some other works, new to the Society, may be introduced, amongst which we petition strongly for Beethoven's sacred Mass in D, and Bach's "Passions."

The LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, under Mr. Surman's direction, will commence the season on Friday, the 2nd of November, with Handel's "Messiah." "This Society," it is mentioned in the circular, "which numbers 700 subscribers, has for its object the practice and performance of sacred music, including oratorios, anthems, services, chants, &c. The Society has in view the improvement of its members in choral harmony, the cultivation of natural taste, and the encouragement of native talent, in the composition and execution of sacred music. Immense advantages are offered for the attainment of these ends, in the large stock of music placed at the Society's disposal by Mr. Surman, the conductor, whose strenuous exertions during the last seventeen years, in the production of the masterpieces of the great composers, and whose long-continued experience in conducting their public performance, eminently qualify him for the post which he holds."

MUSICAL TOURS.—Madame Sontag has been singing this week at Plymouth and Exeter, with the two Lablaches, Signori Calzolari and Belletti, and with M. Thalberg as pianist.—Miss Catherine Hayes will commence her English tour on the 29th inst., with a concert at Manchester, assisted by Miss Poole, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Burdini; Benedict being the conductor. On the 30th, Miss Hayes will sing at Liverpool; on the 31st, at Sheffield; and on the 1st and 2nd of November, at Newcastle-on-Tyne and Leeds. On the 5th of November Miss Hayes will sing at the Philharmonic Concert, at Dublin; and from the 6th to the 10th, will perform in "Lucia," "Norma," and the "Sonnambula," with Miss Poole, Signor Pagliari, Mr. Burdini, and Herr Damcke. Miss Hayes will afterwards visit her natal city, Limerick; and will also perform at Cork.—Mr. John Parry's provincial trip continues to be prosperous.—Mr. Henry Phillips has also been giving his Musical Entertainments, consisting of Moore's "Melodies" and Dibdin's "Songs," in the country; and Mr. Samuel Lover, his Irish and American budgets.—An Italian operatic company, of which Madame Montenegro and Signor Santiago are the principals, have been visiting the chief towns in the United Kingdom.—The Concerts for the People at the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, have been extremely well attended.—The Hungarian vocalists have met with great success at Liverpool, Manchester, and Preston.—Mr. Templeton is giving his English and Scotch ballad entertainments in the north.—Madame Dulcken, with Kotsal the violinist, Hausmann violoncellist, and Mlle. Schiess and Herr Schönhof vocalists, are likewise provincialising with success.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.—The attractions in Paris are Perrot's new ballet, "La Filleule des Fées," with Adolphe Adam's pretty music and Carlotta Grisi's charming dancing, at the Grand Opera, and Halévy's new opera, "La Fée aux Roses," at the Opéra Comique; so fairlyland is now in the ascendant, just as *diable* was some seasons since.—Mme. Castellan has been singing *Alice* in Meyerbeer's "Robert," with great success. Merighi, the celebrated Italian violoncellist, the master of Piatti, has just died in Milan.

#### THE PLAGUE COMES, AND THE PLAGUE GOES.

Nor often was crime so unmask'd as now—  
Oh! not often was earth less blameless;  
Great crowds seem to Moloch their lives to vow,  
Red murder floats plumed from the Praslin brow—  
To the god of love few worshippers bow,  
And all shameful things have grown shameless.

Unbelief and base sensual greed in grain  
The wan texture of modern feelings;  
And the pitying angels with grief complain  
That their whisper'd advice is almost vain—  
That the foulest of passions grimly reign  
In the midst of the foulest dealings.

And loud wars, and rumours of war prevail,  
And red blood is pour'd forth like water;  
And the world is fill'd with a far-spread wail,  
And such horrors are done as cannot fail  
To make men wax furious and women grow pale,  
With the rage, or the dread, of slaughter!

But no more need the murd'rer raise his hand,  
In his vengeance or mad contention!  
A shake has been giv'n to the mortal sand  
Which metes the days of a numberless band—  
They are mark'd and call'd to a different land—  
Oh, brief is their time of dissension!

Nor murder, nor war, has perform'd the deeds  
Which a judgment will soon exhibit;  
The murd'rer recoils as his victim bleeds,  
And the conqueror spares certain lands and creeds—  
The latter has lines which he ne'er exceeds,  
And the former still fears the gibbet.

But THAT which is coming cares nought for kind,  
And respects not any condition;  
Its path is mark'd out, though its eyes be blind,  
And its breath is an arrowy silent wind,  
And each step it takes is a doom design'd,  
With a sure and a dread precision.

The vengeance arrives; but how changed the view!  
While the earth lay stricken and pining,  
Fair Charity hasten'd, all kind and true,  
And o'er many a horror its mantle threw,  
And from rich to poor, like an angel, flew,  
And e'en from above quick relenting drew—  
For some gold 'mid the dross was shining.

Yes, the furnace blazed, and the furnace burn'd,  
But the ill was not past redeeming:  
The all-gracious Judge something kind discern'd,  
And his wrath was sooth'd and his vengeance turn'd,  
And his heart towards mercy and pardon yearn'd—  
Oh! some gold 'mid the dross was beaming!

MILES GERALD KEON.

#### LITERATURE.

A NAVAL BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY, by WILLIAM O'BYRNE, Esq. Murray. Contemporary biography is, at all times, a labour demanding extraordinary discrimination to ensure success. The extent to which this qualification has been tested in the work before us almost amounts to a marvel, of which but a very imperfect idea can be formed from books of the same class published hitherto. All other biographical dictionaries in our language must yield to this in extent and variety of contents; for it accomplishes more for a class than they have done for the entire community. Here is a large 8vo volume of some 1400 pages, and twice as many compactly printed columns; comprising an account, more or less detailed, of nearly five thousand officers; or, in the words of the title-page, "the Life and Services of every Living Officer in her Majesty's Navy, from the rank of Admiral of the Fleet to that of Lieutenant inclusive." Its production has been six years' "unrelenting toil, mental and physical." The author is a civilian, and there is something remarkable in his setting about the work: he saw the necessity that existed for such a book; "it was due to the service—it was due, also, to the country. To the country, it was due that it should be made acquainted with the merits, individually, of men to whose collective efforts it is, in the main, indebted for its proud pre-eminence in the scale of nations; and upon whom it must, in days to come, rely in a great measure for permanent security. To the Profession, it was due that some exertion should be made to furnish a public memorial of the services performed, the dangers braved, the honours attained, and the disappointments suffered, by those who have fought and bled in support of England's greatness, and who, during a long period of peace, have equally maintained her dignity, afforded protection to her commerce, and in every way guarded her interests."

It is gratifying to learn that one of Mr. O'Byrne's staple sources of authority is his communications from the individuals to whose professional biography the volume is devoted. This, in judicious hands, must be the great passport to accuracy. Another important recommendation is the author's confining his commendation to the language adopted in public despatches, or other official documents; he assures us that he has carefully examined the *London Gazette*, affixing in every instance to a memoir, by way of note, the date and page of the *Gazette* in which the officer's name stands recorded; with the single exception of occasions on which the captain of a comparatively large ship has obtained mention through the capture of privateers and letters-of-marque.

Another commendatory acknowledgment is that of the courtesy of the Board of Admiralty towards the author, and especially of the present able Secretary of the Admiralty, Captain W. A. Hamilton, and his venerable predecessor, Sir John Barrow, as well as Mr. Barrow, Keeper of the Admiralty Records. The value of such official aid cannot be too highly rated; and the contribution is alike advantageous to givers and receiver.

The Memoirs are, of course, in extent, proportioned to the services of the individuals. We should, however, mention that as the printing of this bulky volume must have occupied a considerable time, sketches of several officers (upwards of 600) now deceased are of necessity given; and, subject to this necessity, all are included whose names are contained in the *Navy List* for Jan. 1845. Thus, about the middle of the volume we find the life and services of the late Sir Robert Waller Otway occupying five columns, an unusually large extent, yet not greater than sixty-five years' service demand for an officer who, during the term of his career afloat, had been not less than one hundred times engaged with the enemies of his country. To show that, commendous as the Memoirs are, they are not mere dry details, we may refer to an adventure in Otway's life which is vividly told by Mr. O'Byrne.

In July, 1799, this officer formed a plan for cutting out the late British frigate *Hermione*, whose crew had mutinied, and carried her, as reported, into the port of Lagaira. For this purpose he left the *Trent*, with two boats; and at 1, a.m., on the 8th, after a fatiguing row of many hours, entered the enemy's anchorage—but, to his mortification, found that the object of his search was not there. Resolved, however, to effect something, he made a dart at a vessel (apparently a corvette), which his pilot informed him had lately arrived from Spain. Although knocked back, while in the act of boarding, by the discharge of a musket, whose contents passed close along his cheek, his determined spirit was not to be daunted; and, in a few minutes, he and his brave followers were in full possession of their trophy. By break of day, they had succeeded in towing her clear of a heavy fire which had been opened upon her from the batteries; but, as the sun rose, a flotilla of gun boats was observed coming out of the harbour in pursuit. As a dead calm had by this time set in, and as it was perfectly impossible to compete with a force so overwhelming, the only question that remained was, as to how they should themselves avoid falling into the enemy's hands. With that coolness and presence of mind which never forsook him, Captain Otway instructed the lieutenant who was with him (the late Sir Thomas Ussher) to place double sentinels over the prisoners, to point two of the guns (Spanish 12-pounders), treble shotted, down the main hatchway, and, upon the arrival of the flotilla within grape-range, to fire them through the bottom. These directions were strictly followed; and, on the approach of the enemy, they found full employment in saving their countrymen from going down with the sinking vessel, the adventurous British being thereby suffered to accomplish their escape without further molestation.

Another instance of this anecdotic interest may be quoted from the Memoir of Sir James Clark Ross. After the gallant officer's wreck in the *Fury*, and his attempt, in 1827, with Captain Parry, to reach the Pole from the northern shores of Spitzbergen, by travelling with sledge-boats over the ice, on his return to England, Ross was presented with a Commander's commission, dated 8th Nov., 1827. "He was next, from 1829 until 1839, employed under his uncle in the Polar Expedition equipped by Sir Felix Booth. His eminent services during that period (he had honour of planting the British flag on the North Magnetic Pole) were rewarded (after he had officiated for a year as a Supernumerary Commander of the *Victory*, 104, flag-ship of Sir Thomas Williams at Portsmouth) by his elevation to post-rank, 28th October, 1834. In December, 1835, Captain Ross was invested with the command (which he retained about twelve months) of the *Coe*, a sixth-rat, for the purpose of proceeding in quest of, and conveying relief to, some missing whalers which had been frozen in in Baffin's Bay. He was subsequently, until 1838, employed in making a magnetic survey of Great Britain and Ireland, by order of the Admiralty; and on April 8, 1839, he was appointed to the command, in the *Erebus* bomb, of an expedition (consisting of that vessel and of the *Terror*), which, in the ensuing September, sailed from England for the purposes of magnetic research and geographical discovery in the Antarctic Seas. During an absence of four years, three persevering attempts were made to penetrate the icy limits of the South Pole. In the course of their cruises, the ships discovered a vast continent, fringed with a barrier of ice 100 feet in height; they, nevertheless, adventurously persisted, and, in spite of many perils, succeeded in arriving within 157 miles of the Pole (lat. 78° 10'). Among other discoveries, they met with an active volcano, in lat. 77° 32' south, and long. 167° east, seated amidst eternal snows, and gaining an altitude of 12,400 feet. To this was imparted the name of 'Mount Erebus,' as had been to the continent that of 'Victoria Land.' Valuable contributions during the voyage were made to botany, zoology, and geology; and meteorology and terrestrial magnetism derived much benefit from the assiduity bestowed on them. The expedition returned in September, 1843; and as a proof of the skill, humanity, and attention with which it had been conducted, we must add, that, in the whole of the four years, it had only lost three men by accident and one by illness. A short time after his arrival in England, Captain Ross received the honour of knighthood; and on Jan. 31, 1848, he was appointed to the *Enterprise* discovery-ship, now in search of the expedition under Sir John Franklin."

The Biographies are chequered with all hues of fortune; and often they present instances of unrequited service, dishonourable to the Administrations



under whom such things were sanctioned. What can be said in justification of the treatment of Lieutenant Fitton, who entered the Navy in 1780, (under the auspices of Lord Keppel,) as Captain's servant, on board the *Vestal*, 23, Captain George Keppel. In that frigate, besides assisting at the capture of the *Phoenix*, a heavy privateer, he witnessed that of an American packet, having on board Mr. Laurens, ex-President of the Rebel Congress, who was proceeding to Holland with a secret treaty of alliance with the Dutch. This treaty, previous to the actual capture of the ship, had been thrown in a bag overboard, and would never have been discovered but for Mr. Fitton, who, being at the moment employed in furling the fore-top-gallant sail, observed what he considered to be a man overboard, and instantly made a report which led to its recovery. A declaration of war against the Dutch, and the immediate sweeping of their numerous vessels from the face of the sea, were thus the momentous results of Mr. Fitton's keenness. Next we find him as purser on board the *Stork* sloop, during the great mutiny at the Nore, where he was greatly instrumental to the preservation of order; and, on his arrival in the West Indies, Mr. Fitton, with a single boat, destroyed a privateer which the *Stork* had driven on shore.

On a cruise on the Spanish Main, on 23rd January, 1801, in command of a small worn-out felucca, he drove on shore a Spanish galleon, which was boarded and carried, through the irresistible heroism of Mr. Fitton, who, with his sword in his mouth, followed by the greater part of his crew similarly armed, plunged into the sea and swam to her. Notwithstanding this and other valiant exploits, Mr. Fitton was sent home at the peace without either promotion or reward! Although the "zeal and perseverance, the very gallant conduct, and superior professional abilities" displayed by Fitton on other occasions were officially reported by the Commander-in-Chief, he was, nevertheless, after having further captured a privateer and an armed schooner, superseded; "not," as observed by Mr. James, in his "Naval History," "to be promoted to the rank of Commander, but to be turned adrift as an unemployed Lieutenant." All he got was the thanks of the Admiralty, and a sword from the Patriotic Society, value £50!

This is, certainly, one of the "plague spots" of the Service chronicles; and the reader will gladly turn from such records to brighter scenes of heroism crowned and cherished by a grateful country, and honoured and rewarded from its Treasury; instances such as are to be found a hundredfold in Mr. O'Byrne's biographies.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

MEETINGS.

**YORK, NEWCASTLE, AND BERWICK.**—The various meetings of shareholders to appoint delegates who should elect the future board of directors, have taken place throughout the country. At York it was resolved that the number of directors ought not to be less than nine, none of whom should be members of any Stock Exchange. The appointment of three managing directors was upheld. Some opposition was manifested to the recommendation that "directors should not be connected with any other company." At Liverpool there was an objection raised to providing any delegate, but one was ultimately appointed without any definite instructions. At Manchester the recommendations of the report were assented to, and the appointment of one managing director was thought advisable. At Newcastle-on-Tyne, the feeling of the meeting was against managing directorships, but in favour of eight co-ordinate directors. At Edinburgh, the delegate was elected only for considering the preliminary steps in the election of the directors, and was not held to represent the various opinions of the shareholders on the topics of the report of the committee. At Darlington the meeting was adverse to the appointment of any director who might be connected with the Stock Exchange, and differed with the recommendation of the report as to the exclusion of gentlemen who were directors of other lines. At Derby, the appointment of eight directors was insisted upon—five to be ordinary directors, with a remuneration of £1000 per annum, divisible according to their attendance, with three managing directors of £500 to £700 per annum each. Finally, at London, the two delegates elected were especially chosen to impress the necessity of a Government audit. We have been thus minute in recording the proceedings of the more prominent meetings of the York, Newcastle, and Berwick shareholders, as this attempt to obtain a fair representative system honourably distinguishes the committee of investigation, whose report we presented last week.

**SCOTTISH CENTRAL.**—October 10: Adjourned Half-yearly Meeting: Perth: Lord Duncan in the chair.—The general depression had affected this enterprise, though the goods traffic was improving. A dividend of 2½ per cent. for the half-year was declared, with a surplus of £7450 to meet contingencies. The arrangements with the southern companies, as to leasing the line, were to be modified; and equitable negotiations with the Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee had put an end to their ruinous competition. In the event of fresh arrangements with the southern companies, a committee of investigation is to be appointed from the general body of shareholders.

**DUBLIN AND KINGSTOWN.**—October 13: Half-yearly Meeting: Dublin: Mr. Roe in the chair.—Considerable reductions have been made in the working expenditure, though Her Majesty's visit had necessitated an extra outlay. A 4 per cent. dividend was declared for the half-year, with a rest of £3200 to be carried to next half-year. The shareholders and directors reciprocated congratulations on the state of the property, and the benefit from the Queen's use of their line, and her graciousness generally to her Irish subjects.

**WEST LONDON.**—Oct. 18: Special meeting: London: S. Bird, Esq., in the chair.—It was resolved to take legal proceedings to compel the London and North-western Company to carry out the provisions of the lease of this line, which they entered into in 1845, and which they have hitherto held in abeyance.

The line from CARNARVON to BANGOR is determined upon, and a sufficient pecuniary deposit has been collected. The line will commence from the Britannia Bridge, and is under the sanction of the Chester and Holyhead, although the promoters form a distinct company.

The final lift of the first great tube out of the four tubes between the towers of the BRITANNIA BRIDGE over the Menai Straits, to its final level, took place on the 13th. It is expected that the first public transit for trains through the whole tubular tunnel will be accomplished about the beginning of March.

The NOTTINGHAM and MANSFIELD line was opened on the 11th, as promised, to the public.

A section of the GLASGOW, DUMFRIES, and CARLISLE, extending twelve miles between Dumfries and a closeburn, was opened on the 15th. The line traverses one of the most picturesque districts of Scotland.

The Extension of the LONDONDERRY and ENNISKILLEN, which will afford much winter employment to the poor, was commenced on the 8th. The proximity of the station to Londonderry will prove of great advantage.

The promoters of the GREAT NORTH OF SCOTLAND, which is to join the Aberdeen, and through Elgin to Inverness, have addressed the various landowners to lead their assistance in the promotion of the project by liberal arrangements for the purchase of the necessary land.

**THE NEW POST-OFFICE REGULATIONS.**—On Tuesday a meeting of the London clergy took place at the hall of St. Sion College, for the purpose of "expressing their opinion upon the evil of an increased transmission of letters from the General Post-office on Sundays." The meeting was convened by the Venerable the Archdeacon of London (who presided on the occasion), in compliance with a numerous signed requisition, of which the following is a copy:—"We the undersigned request you to convene a meeting of the clergy of the archdeaconry of London, in order to the expression of their opinion on the evil of an increased transmission of letters from the General Post-office on Sundays, and also to consider the necessity of presenting petitions to Parliament declaratory of their opinion that it is the paramount duty of the Government of this Christian nation to protect the Sabbath from being desecrated by public trading or otherwise, and to secure to all orders of men the sacred enjoyment of that day of rest which the Creator, in his mercy, has ordained for mankind."—The Venerable Chairman having opened the proceedings with prayer, read a series of resolutions expressive of sympathy with the various meetings of the laity which had already disapproved of the proposed changes in the Post-office. The resolutions also declared it to be the duty of a Christian Government to secure to all its subjects rest from labour, and an opportunity of worshipping God on the Lord's Day.—The Rev. Dr. Croly observed, in proof that the Sabbath should be honoured as an ordinance of God, that it was a most remarkable circumstance that of all the ordinances of religion this was the first, and one deemed of so much importance, that it took up the seventh portion of every man's existence. There were seven remarkable occasions on which the importance of this ordinance was impressed on the minds of mankind. The observation of the Sabbath was imposed by the Deity on man on the very day after his existence. Secondly, the command was renewed when the children of Israel were delivered out of Egypt. Thirdly, it was engraven on the tables of the law given to Moses. Fourthly, it was brought prominently before the minds of the children of Israel every Sabbatical year, when slaves were emancipated. Fifthly, on the year of jubilee, its importance and advantages were recommended to the Jewish people, when not only slaves were liberated, but the fallen families of Israel had their estates restored to them. Sixthly, the term of seventy years captivity in Babylon was proportioned to the defection of the Jews with respect to the observance of the Sabbath Day; and, lastly, St. Paul refers to the institution as a type of the *katanavos* or *σαββατισμος*—the rest which remains for the people of God. The rev. gentleman, in noticing the statement of the Post-office authorities that the proposed arrangements would have a tendency to diminish Sunday labour, remarked that the agitation against the measure was chiefly conducted by Post-office clerks, mercantile men, and other parties best competent to form a right decision upon the matter. (Hear, hear.)—The Rev. Mr. Murray, of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, also intimated the necessity of Sabbath observance. The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Rev. Mr. Roxby; the Rev. J. V. Point, Rector of London; the Rev. Mr. Gibbs, Vicar of Christ Church, Newgate-street; the Rev. Mr. Wood; the Rev. Mr. Dear, of Marylebone; the Rev. John Sandys, Incumbent of St. Paul's, Islington; and the Rev. Mr. Evans, Rector of Shoreham; and it was agreed that the resolutions should be embodied in a memorial, which, when signed by the clergy of the archdeaconry, shall be presented by the Archdeacon to the First Lord of the Treasury, the Postmaster-General, and the Secretary of State for the Home Department. The meeting then separated.

Professor Frobel, of Zurich, the well-known teacher, has resigned his post there to proceed as professor to Hamburg, in obedience to a call he received some time back from certain learned ladies who are about to form a university for females. Female professors are to be appointed, among others Miss 1 ft mar.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. B." Homerton.—The position presents some difficulties, but we believe White could win.  
"W. S. D." Kelso; "Incertus"—You are quite wrong, as you may see by referring to the solution.  
"Indignans."—We cordially concur in our Correspondent's opinion, that it is high time that the right-thinking portion of the Chess community should combine to put down the system of playing Chess for a stake in public rooms. The custom may have its advantages in a Club, where there is some guarantee for the respectability of the players; but in places open to any one, it is calculated to operate most injuriously upon the interests of the game, by encouraging a set of idle and unscrupulous persons to practise Chess solely for the purpose of reaping a profit from unscrupulous visitors.  
"C. P. G."—The correct way ought to be that mate cannot be given in two moves, while Black has the power of checking with his Rook.  
"J. L. F."—It is lawful to Castle after having been in check, provided neither the King nor Rook have moved.  
"Juvenis."—"A. S." North Shields; "S. U." and others, are mistaken. Problem No. 299 cannot possibly be solved in two moves.  
"A Constant Reader."—The first move in the solution of Mr. Stanley's clever Problem No. 298 is Kt to K 5th, not Kt to Q 5th.  
"H. R. E. C." Blackheath.—Your notation is unintelligible; study the method of describing the moves which is given in the "Chess-Player's Text-Book."  
"B. B." appears to have overlooked a tolerably obvious mode of solving his Problem in three moves instead of five, by 1. P to K 6th (ch); 2. Kt to Q 6th (ch); and 3. Q to K 7th or 8th—mate.  
"C. E. R."—If "C. E. R." will favour us with his address, the information he requires shall be forwarded. His problems, always acceptable, are now under consideration.  
"J. L. S."—In the position submitted, your antagonist's King is in check, notwithstanding the checking Piece is unable to move.  
"Milo."—You will probably think the following from the Berlin Magazine sufficiently difficult:—White: K at Q 3d, R at K 5th, B at Q Kt 3d, Kt at Q R 8th, P at K 2d. Black: K at Q 3d, P's at K B 5th and Q B 4th. White to mate in five moves.  
"Veteran."—True. For the most part, the Chess-men intended for play (we say nothing of the merely ornamental ones, such as Flaxman's, or the Oriental gimcracks) have been designed by the manufacturers alone; and they, knowing nothing of the requirements of the game, have given us patterns as ugly and as inappropriate as could well be conceived. The first attempt to combine utility with something like beauty of form, was made a few years back in the "Edinburgh Men." These were evidently designed by a player; and, with them, we have found very difficult combinations much less confused and perplexing than with the other men in use. Unfortunately, however, they want stability. In the leading pieces, the base is too small for the pillar, and one is in constant fear of their toppling over. Now this defect is remedied completely in the new pieces called "The Staunton Chess-men," in which, while the base is unusually broad, the shaft and crown are sufficiently light and slender to prevent their offering any impediment to the view of the lesser men. So great, indeed, are their advantages in this respect, as well as in many others, that we do not hesitate to say that an inexperienced player will learn the game not only better, but in half the time, with them, than he would with any others.  
"A Chess-player" wishing to try a game by correspondence may hear of his match by addressing to "Secundus Nulli," Post-office, Borough-bridge, Yorkshire.  
"W. H. G."—1. Your solution is wrong! In the Staunton Chess-men the Pawns have no mark to distinguish them, but the Pieces on the King's side are indicated by a small crown, and this will be found of incalculable service in playing over a written game, and in examining positions.  
"J. S." Manchester.—With the best play on both sides, your game would most probably be drawn.  
"S. B." Hull.—Neat, but the modus operandi is too apparent in all of them.  
Solutions by "S. T." "A Beginner," "M. E. R." "J. G. M." "C. P. G." "Kirkham," "Byso," "B. B." "Bellary," "S. U." "Mr. Pips," "Cassia," "J. J. A." and "Eliza," are correct. Those by "Incertus," "W. S. D." "R. B." "J. L. S." "M. P." "Vir-non," are wrong.

\* \* \* The answers to several communications are deferred, from want of space.  
Any amateur desirous of playing a game at Chess by Correspondence, may meet with an opponent by addressing "H. E. K., Post-office, York."

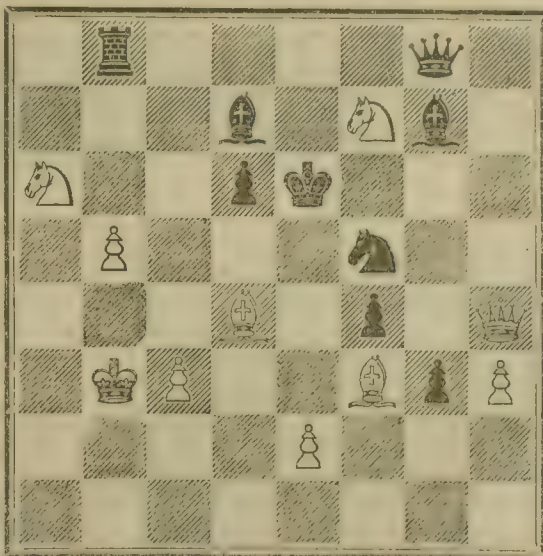
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 299.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.  
1. Kt to K B 5th (ch) K to Q B 4th 3. P takes Kt (ch) K takes R  
2. Kt to Q 3d (ch) K to Q 4th 4. B to Q B 2d  
Giving mate, by discovering check next move, let Black play as he may.

PROBLEM NO. 300.

By E. A. M. M., of Mhow, in India.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in six moves.

MATCH BY CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE CHESS CLUBS OF LONDON AND AMSTERDAM.

44. WHITE (Amsterdam). BLACK (London).  
Amsterdam to play. K to Q 4th

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Mr. Staunton gives his Queen's Rook to an Amateur in return for the Pawn and move.

(Remove White's Q's Rook and Black's K B's Pawn from the board.)  
WHITE (Mr. S.) BLACK (Mr. —.)  
1. P to K 4th Q Kt to B 3d  
2. Q Kt to B 3d P to K 3d  
3. P to Q 4th K B to Q Kt 5th  
4. K Kt to B 3d P to Q 4th  
5. P to K 5th K Kt to K 2d  
6. K B to Q 3d Castles  
7. B takes K R P (ch) K takes B  
8. B Kt to K R P (ch) K to Kt sq (a)  
9. Q to K R 5th R to K B 4th  
10. Q to K R 7th (ch) K to B sq  
11. Q to K R 8th (ch) K Kt to his sq  
12. Kt to K R 7th (ch) K to B 2d  
13. P to K Kt 4th R takes K P (ch)  
(b)  
WHITE (Mr. S.) BLACK (Mr. —.)  
14. P takes R Q Kt takes P (c)  
15. K Kt to his 5th (ch) K to B sq  
16. P to K B 4th Q Kt takes K Kt  
P (d)  
17. K R to K Kt sq P to K 4th  
18. P to K R 3d P takes K B P  
19. Q takes P Q to K 2d (ch)  
20. K to Q sq Q Kt to K B 3d  
21. R to K sq Q Kt to K 5th  
22. B to Q 2d (e) Q B to K 3d  
23. K Kt takes B Q takes K Kt  
24. Q Kt takes Kt B takes B  
25. R to K B sq (ch)  
and Black surrendered.

(a) The moves up to this point are the same on both sides as those given in the analysis of the game of Pawn move in "The Chess-Player's Companion," the game then proceeds as follows:—

WHITE. BLACK.  
8. Q to her 3d (ch) K to Kt 3d  
9. Q to K R 3d (ch) K Kt to K B 4th  
10. P to K Kt 4th Q to K sq (west)  
11. P to K Kt 4th Q Kt to K 2d  
(b) He appears to have no better move. If K takes K B P, White's reply would be K Kt to his 5th (ch), before taking the Rook.  
(c) Had he played P to Q 5th instead, his situation in a few moves would have been still worse; for suppose—  
13. K Kt to his 5th (ch) K to B sq  
14. Q to K Kt 5th Q to her 2d  
(d) Q Kt to K Kt 3d would have been better, but in any case Black has a very bad game.  
(e) It required some forbearance to resist the temptation of pursuing the attack at once; but for the move made, however, we believe Blacknight have escaped with a drawn game; *et cetera*:  
22. Kt to K R 7th (ch) K to B 2d  
23. K to K R 4th B takes Q Kt  
24. P takes B Kt takes P (ch)  
and the game must be drawn, since White dare not move his King elsewhere.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On Saturday, in consequence of the refusal of the colonists at the Cape and Sydney to receive convicts from England, orders were issued from the Home-office for the convicts now waiting to be ex-patriated to be forwarded to Morton Bay and Norfolk Island. To the latter place a body of 200 out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital are about to be sent. Most advantageous offers have been made to these men to induce them to locate at Norfolk Island: on the passage out they will act as a convict guard, and on their arrival in the settlement perform duty as military colonists. The number of convicts awaiting transportation is 1400.

On the 18th inst., sixteen of the political prisoners at Rastadt (Bavaria), among whom were some of the most seriously compromised, escaped from the fortress; and though cannon were instantly fired to give an alarm, they were not captured.

On the night of the 1st inst., during a violent gale of wind, preceded by a thunderstorm, the suspension-bridge of Savines, in the Hautes Alpes, was carried away. The accident is attributed to the force of the wind, although some think that the lightning affected the cast-iron work of the bridge.

On Saturday morning, between seven and eight o'clock, a man named Harvey Thompson, engaged loading a cart of grain at Sir Henry Meux's brewery, Tottenham court-road, whilst levelling the grains on the top of the cart, was suddenly seized with a fit of epilepsy; the workmen around, unaware of the circumstance, continued to shovel out the grains till the man was completely covered. A passer-by, having witnessed his struggles, raised an alarm, and the poor fellow was rescued and conveyed to St. Giles's Infirmary, but before he reached there life was found to be extinct.

Some of the works of Thorwaldsen have been lately sold by auction at Copenhagen. The Spanish minister bought a Ganymede for 2000 dollars. The Ganymede with the eagle was purchased for the Copenhagen Museum. Some purchases were also made for the French Academy.

The hall built by Mr. Hullah's musical classes in Long-acre, nearly opposite Bow-street, is to be called St. Martin's Hall. It will afford sitting room for two thousand persons.

The sands on the north and south of Bridlington are almost covered with wrecks and coals, there being about 1400 tons lost by the gale on the 7th. Some fishermen have got twenty tons of coals.

On Thursday week, an eel which weighed 18 ounces was caught in the Eden by Mr. Richard Ellison, of Appleby, whilst fishing for trout with fly.

An act of Parliament was passed shortly before the prorogation, to extend to the officers of inland revenue the privilege of becoming members of the Excise Benevolent Fund Society. It appears that the society was established under the sanction of the Commissioners of Excise for their officers; and, in consequence of the consolidation of the stamps and the excise, it is considered necessary to extend the society to the inland officers, and for that purpose this statute is to be taken into effect as a public act.

The number of dispensaries, fever hospitals, and infirmaries for which county presentments were made in Ireland in the year 1848, amounted to 773 (against 813 in 1847); the amount of presentments was £83,508, and the amount of subscriptions £33,393, making a sum total of £116,902. The total amount of the sums subscribed and granted for fever hospitals in Ireland at the present sessions preparatory to the spring a-sizes of 1849 was £7885. The number of fever hospitals supported by the poor-rates in 1848 amounted to 233 under the temporary fever act, the cost of which was £81,448; and to 80 not under that act, the cost of which was £21,789.

A short time back, Mr. Dixon, of the Red Lion, Henley-on-Thames, was entertained to dinner by some of his supporters, and among the dishes was a haunch of venison. The meat was so "high" that it was sent from the table untasted; but on the following day a portion of it was hashed up for the family dinner, and immediately after partaking of it Mr. Dixon and his two brothers, together with the cook and boots, were seized with a sudden illness, and all of them, it is said, died in the course of a few hours.

A letter addressed to the editor of the *Plymouth Times* states that it is currently reported that one of the persons who took the most active part at the public meetings as well as at the inquiry before the Bishop of Exeter, against the Sisters of Mercy, has actually left his premises to Miss Sellon and the Sisters to form an establishment at Eldad.

George Frederick Manning and Maria Manning his wife were removed from Horse-monger-lane Gaol to Newgate on Monday, preparatory to their trial next week.

On Saturday last the first great tube (or iron tunnel), out of four tubes between the towers, required for the double line of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, in crossing the Menai Straits, was safely hoisted to its final resting-place, or level, without accident to life or limb, which is the more remarkable when the magnitude and height of the works, and the ponderous machinery employed, are taken into consideration. The other tubes will be fixed in their positions early in next spring.

John Dayman, Esq., caused it to be notified to his tenants in Devonshire, by his steward, Mr. J. H. Brimacombe, that at the half-yearly audit for rents due at Lady Day last, held on the 5th day of October, an abatement of 15 per cent. would be made to each of his tenants who should pay up all rent and arrears.

The prospectus of a new Irish paper states "the *Dundalk Democrat* will advocate an immediate reduction in the rent of land, so as to enable the farmer to live as well when he receives only 20s. per barrel for wheat as when he sold it at £3 per barrel."

The Lords of the Treasury have issued a general order approving of Swansea as a port for the importation of tobacco.

At St. Ives, the boats on the mackerel fishery have been very unsuccessful during the past week.

The establishment of baths and washhouses for the labouring classes is likely to be carried into effect at Oxford, the scheme having been taken up with great interest by several benevolent gentlemen, and in particular by Mr. Philip Bury Duncan, of New College, keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, who heads the subscription list with a donation of £50.

The member for East Somerset, William Miles, Esq., has most liberally taken off 10 per cent. from his rents at this last settlement. This is the second reduction which Mr. Miles has made.

At Alloa Gaol, on Wednesday evening, a fire broke out in an apartment, caused by some oakum becoming ignited. Two prisoners were allowed free access to the court-yard, and two or three of them escaped. The fire was promptly extinguished.

During last week, the tides being favourable, large quantities of herrings were caught on the Scottish side of the Solway.

A treaty of marriage between the Prince Royal of Sweden and the Princess Gullemina Maria, eldest daughter of Prince Frederick of the Netherlands, has just been signed at the Hague. The celebration of the nuptials will take place at the end of January or the beginning of February next year. The Prince Royal was born in May, 1826, and the Princess in April, 1824.

The Marseilles journals announce the death, from cholera, of Madame Manin, wife of the ex-President of the Republic of Venice. This melancholy event took place on Tuesday night week; she had only arrived in Marseilles a few days before, with her husband and family.

The number of persons prosecuted for giving unstamped receipts in 1847 was 102; and in 1848, 119. The penalties recovered vary from £5 to £60. Parties will at once see the importance of not evading the law.

The vacancy in the office of Assistant Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital has been filled up by the appointment of Dr. Thomas B. Peacock.

The committee of the Foundling Hospital have unanimously elected Mr. Brownlow to the office of secretary, vacant by the death of Mr. Livesley, who held that appointment for fifty years.

It is rumoured that Mrs. Butler (Fanny Kemble) is about to marry a Mr. Theodore Sedgwick, of Stockbridge.

The officers and men of the Devonport dockyard have formed a fund for the purpose of placing as boarders, in the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, at Stoke, the orphans of men belonging to the dockyard who have died of the cholera lately. The fund is to be raised by donations and subscriptions, and already most of the officers of the yard, headed by the admiral superintendent, have given either donations or subscriptions, and many both.

On Saturday morning last, at four o'clock, James Western, a jobbing gardener, residing in Carpenter's-buildings, Clapham-rise, got up out of bed, and without any provocation murdered his wife and their child Mary Elizabeth Western, an infant about two years old, by cutting their throats with a razor. The unfortunate man, who was unable to assign any reason for the dreadful deed, and appears to be not of sane mind, gave himself up to the police a few hours after the murder, and he has been committed for trial.

The Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands (now Sir Henry George Ward) has been nominated by her Majesty a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The new arrangements proposed for the Post-office have been deferred to the 28th inst.

An evening school for the indigent has been established in the parish of St. Martin in the Fields, in connexion with King's College, and every theological student is required in rotation to give his services as a teacher.

The Rev. Robert Gleig, M.D., Chaplain General to the Forces, having returned from his tour of inspection of the regimental schools and libraries in Scotland and Ireland, has resumed his official duties at the Horse-Guards.

Sweet oil has been found a cure for the mildew which affects grapes. The stems are brushed with the oil daily.

The Pacha of Egypt, in order to test the relative merits of English and Arab horses, it is proposed a match to be run in Egypt: the distance to be ten miles; the stake £10,000, which he thinks, if desired, might be increased to £15,000; no limitation as to age or weight. The ground over which the match would be run is sand, with a good many stones in it. The challenge is likely to be accepted, on the adoption of certain stipulations proposed by the Turf Club, who it would appear are anxious of making the stakes £15,000 aside, instead of £10,000.

It is said that an intimation has been given by Lord Grey to parties interested in emigration to the Cape of Good Hope that the plan of sending convicts to that colony has been withdrawn. Some definite announcement to this effect was required, since the unsettled state of the question was calculated to interfere injuriously with the proceedings of merchants and others in this country connected with the trade of the place.





WATERING-PLACES OF ENGLAND.—BRIDLINGTON QUAY, YORKSHIRE.

## BRIDLINGTON QUAY.

This attractive resort, like the last of our series of the "Watering-places of England," lies on the Yorkshire coast, but at that point where the line turns westward from Flamborough Head, and then, sweeping round to the south, forms the spacious bay called Bridlington Bay, upon the shores of which the sea has made such encroachments as to sweep away the villages of Auburn, Hartburn, and Hyde. In this sheltered harbour, at about a mile south-east of the old town of Bridlington lies the above. It is a modern built place, and is distinctively known as Bridlington Quay; the principal street running direct to the harbour, and being very wide. Within the last sixty years, it has risen from a humble village to the rank of a town numbering above 2000 inhabitants. The north pier commands a view of Flamborough Head, at five miles distance. The bathing accommodation is excellent; and the beach has a fine hard sand, which affords a good walk at low water. An ebbing and flowing spring, which was discovered in 1811, furnishes an abundant supply of water, of remarkable purity. This spring was discovered by the late Benjamin Milne, Esq., col-

lector of the customs at this port; a man who, for this and other services, is justly entitled to rank first among the benefactors of Bridlington. In addition to this ebbing and flowing spring, there is also a chalybeate spring, situate about a quarter of a mile to the north-west of the Quay, and issuing out of a pleasant garden near the Anti-Mills, the medicinal properties of which resemble the chalybeate springs of Scarborough and Cheltenham, though the water seems to be less purgative.

The Esplanade is a spacious level green, commanding a beautiful view of the Holderness Coast, which stretches in a curve as far as the eye can trace. The town has an elegant church, in the Early English style, built in 1840, from the designs of Messrs. Scott and Moffatt. There are also other places of worship.

Among the attractions for visitors is the Victoria Promenade and Polytechnic Rooms, adjoining the North Pier. The building is in the castellated style, from the designs of Messrs. Worth and Frith, of Sheffield, and cost, with the site, about £8000. It contains an upper and lower Promenade Room, News, Billiard, and Exhibition Rooms, with promenade on the roof and prospect tower. The Exhibition Room has this year been graced by a small but excellent collection of paintings in landscape, figure, and composition, subjects chiefly by A. Perigal, W. Shiels, John A. Houston, and other Scottish artists. The rooms are occa-

sionally appropriated for the shows of the Bridlington and district Floral and Horticultural Society; besides balls, concerts, &c.

A very meritorious work is now in progress, in the restoration of the fine old Priory Church of Bridlington, the appeal in behalf of which has been liberally responded to.

Bridlington Quay is famed for its fossils of the chalk cliffs. The place is frequently visited by storms. On February 17, 1836, here was one of the heaviest storms ever known; and there was a very severe one here but a few days since.

The neighbourhood abounds with walks and rides, affording extensive prospects of Bessingby, Carnaby, Boynton, Thorpe, Rudston, &c., on the west; Sowerby, Marton, Flambro', &c., on the north; and Hilderthorpe, Barmston, &c., on the south. The face of the country is generally undulating, and is rich in wood- and scenery.

## NEW CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS, EAST WOODHAY, HANTS.

On Wednesday, the 10th inst., the new Church, lately erected in the parish of East Woodhay, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Oxford (acting for the Bishop of Winchester), in the presence of a large attendance of the neighbouring clergy and gentry.

The old Parish Church of East Woodhay being very inconveniently situated, and insufficient for the increasing population of this district, the above new Church has been erected to supply this spiritual want. It is beautifully situated, in a large churchyard. The structure, which is in the early English style (13th century), consists of a Nave and North Aisle (the approach being from the north), with a spacious Chancel. The tower is situated at the north junction of Chancel and Nave, and is surmounted by a light spire of graceful proportions. The Vestry is on the south side of the Chancel. The several gables are surmounted with decorative crosses, and the roofs are finished with neat cresting.

The interior of the Church has been considerably decorated, and many munificent presents have been made by individuals; amongst these gifts may be named—a splendid service of Communion plate, an enriched font, a peal of bells, an organ (by Bevington), a reading-desk, and some admirable painted glass in six of the windows (by Clutterbuck). In plan, the Church (including the chancel) measures 87 feet, and will accommodate four hundred persons, the greater portion of the seats being free. The materials are flint and Bath stone.

This new Church, to which a district has been assigned, has been built by subscription, aided by grants from the Incorporated and Diocesan Societies. The endowment is given by the Rector, out of the proceeds of the rectory. Considerable ecclesiastical interest is attached to the parish of East Woodhay, the rectory having been held by Bishops Kerr, Hooper, and Lowth.

The approach to the churchyard from the turnpike-road is through a lych-gate of pleasing design. The site of the Church and the adjoining churchyard is a gift. In the adjoining field there are now in course of erection Schools, with a residence for a master.

The Church and Schools are from designs by Messrs. Wyatt and Brandon, architects, of London. Of the Schools we cannot yet speak, as they are only just above the ground; but the Church is a beautiful structure.

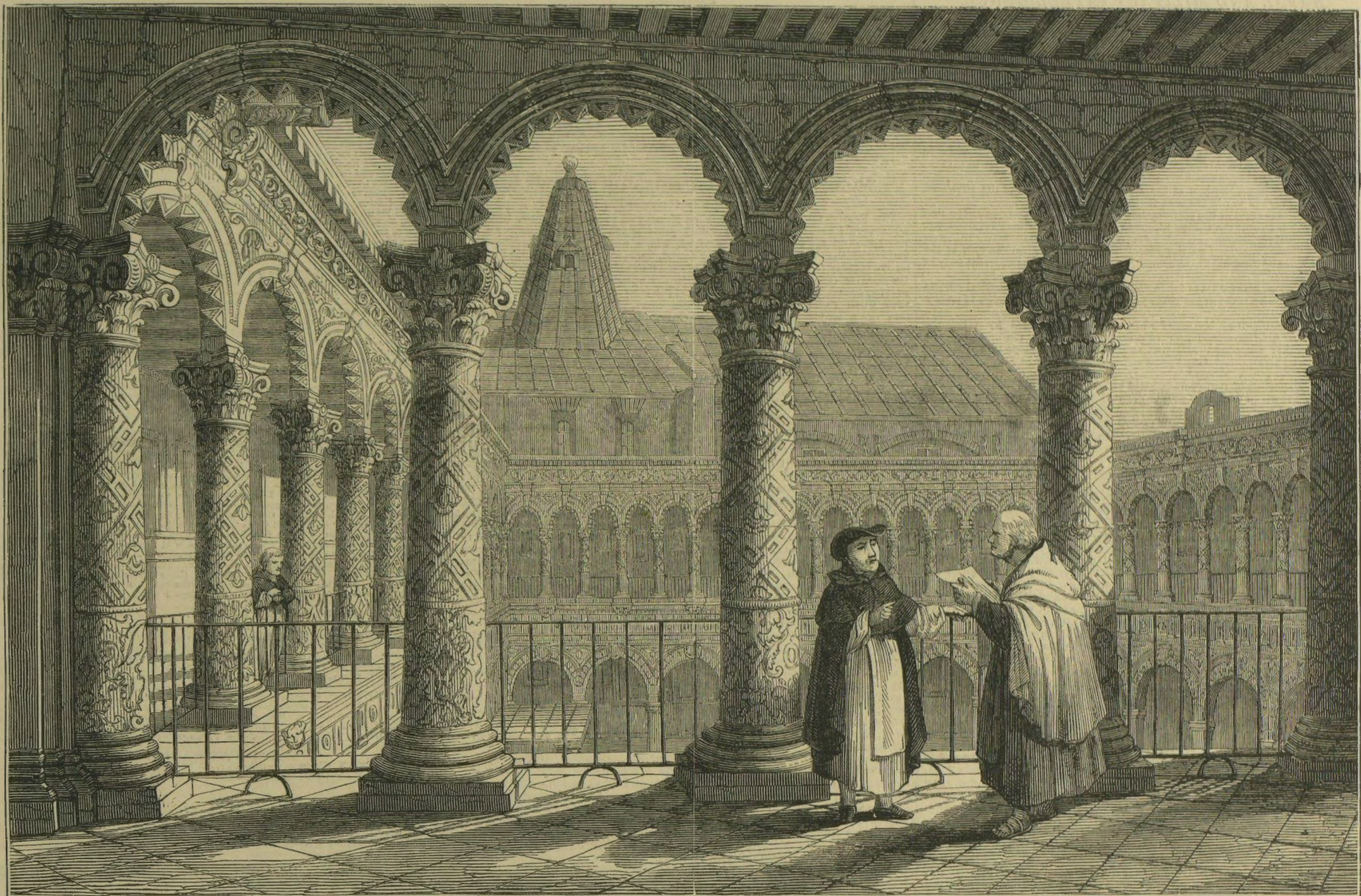
**OPENING OF THE WATERMAN'S CHURCH AT FENGE COMMON.**—On Sunday morning this neat and substantial edifice was opened for divine service, a license having been granted by the Bishop of Winchester for that purpose. The consecration by the Bishop is deferred, owing to the insufficiency of funds. The sacred building stands contiguous to the almshouses of the Waterman's Company, at Fenge Common. The cost of its erection exceeded £5000, and it is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. The patronage of the living has also been granted to the Waterman's Company in perpetuity. The sum of £700 is still wanted to complete the building fund, although Mr. Brown, of the Waterman's Company, and some of the neighbouring gentry, have been extremely liberal. As soon as that fund is complete, the church will be consecrated in due form by the Bishop. Two sermons were preached during the day, by the Rev. Joseph Ridgway, M.A., who has been appointed incumbent by the Waterman's Company; and a very respectable congregation was in attendance, who liberally contributed to the funds on leaving the church.

At the recent meeting of the British Association at Birmingham, Sir David Brewster exhibited a specimen of incombustible cloth for the dresses of ladies and children, manufactured at Dundee. Although this cloth burns when it is inflamed by a candle, yet the flame speedily dies away, and its incombustibility is such that the person who wears it can receive no injury, even when it is burnt by a candle or the flame of a fire. As the material which renders the cloth incombustible is removed by washing, the inventor was desirous that some of the eminent chemists of the Association should direct their attention to the subject, with the view of making the incombustibility of the cloth permanent.



NEW CHURCH AT EAST WOODHAY, HANTS.





THE CONVENT OF LA MERCED, IN THE CITY OF MEXICO.

### CONVENTUAL ARCHITECTURE OF MEXICO.

MEXICO is one of the finest cities in the world. The numerous churches and convents, with their cupolas and steeples, give the town a magnificent appearance. The cathedral is, in one part, low, and of bad Gothic architecture; but the other, built in the Italian style, is very handsome. With the exterior our readers must be familiar, by an Engraving which has already appeared in this Journal.

The convents are likewise distinguished by their extent, architectural beauty and wealth. We have engraved a portion of one of the convents (that of La Merced), which stands in the south-eastern part of the city, in the Calle de la Merced. The exterior of the building is plain and unadorned; but, as our Illustration shows, within it is highly enriched. We here see the interior of a large quadrangular court, each side of which is occupied by an upper and lower corridor, fronted by columns, with sculptured shafts, in the Lombardic taste, having very rich capitals and sup-

porting arches horizontally zigzagged. The faces of the arcades present a display of florid enrichment: beneath a boldly dentelled cornice runs a moulding comparatively pure, under which is a frieze of rich scroll-work. Each arch has a decorative key-stone, and the mouldings and spandril ornaments are highly beautiful. These open corridors are admirably fitted for the fine climate of Mexico, where the *portales*, or covered colonnades, are the shops, so to speak, of the capital, which are well supplied with manufactured goods from Europe and China. Inner squares appear to be a general plan for large edifices in Mexico. The palace in which the Viceroy was formerly lodged contains also the senate-house and all the principal public offices, and is a building of great extent, including a number of squares and inner courts, with separate staircases and suites of apartments.

In the accompanying scene, besides the fine architecture, is shown a specimen of the conventual costume.

The Engraving has been copied, by permission, from one of a series of twenty-six finely-executed drawings, entitled "Mexico Illustrated," by John Phillips and A. Rider, and published at the Library of Arts, 10, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

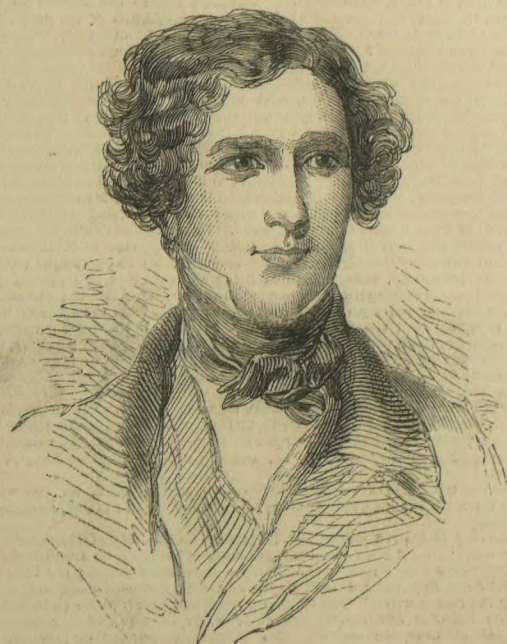
importers. Now, a produce of fifty bushels per acre, at 4s., is equal to £10 per acre, without reckoning the great value of the green crop, from the thinnings and strippings during its growth, and a ton per acre of dry sweet food from the leaves, equal to the best hay, neither of which can be got by buying the corn from the Americans. Add to this the greater sweetness and freshness of the home-grown corn, which will always insure it a preference in the market, as alone fit for use for household purposes; and for all these reasons I conclude that the forty-day Hybrid maize should be cultivated in England, and that it is the only variety which will not disappoint the expectations of the grower.

54, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

WILLIAM KEENE.

### THE LATE GEORGE EDWARD ANSON, ESQ.

IN the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week, the decease of the above lamented gentleman was announced, and a brief biography was appended. The portrait of the late Mr. Anson is now presented. He held, during his life, most arduous and responsible positions, and he acquitted himself with a tact and judgment that proved the extent of his capabilities. The political duties entailed on Royalty are performed under the advice and guidance of the constitutional advisers of the Crown; but there are onerous affairs connected with the domestic circle of her Majesty and of her illustrious Consort exacting extreme delicacy and judicious foresight, and Mr. Anson exhibited these qualities in an eminent degree. His courtesy and urbanity in the exercise of his difficult and multifarious functions will be pleasantly recollected by all those persons who had occasion to hold communication with him. He had the strength of mind to be a faithful and conscientious adviser of the Court; and, whilst he was a most devoted and loyal servant, he never



THE LATE MR. G. E. ANSON.

forgot what were the true interests of Royalty. He was an elegant and accomplished scholar, and was much attached, even in the midst of his heavy duties, to literature and the fine arts. His premature death is a matter of deep regret to men of all shades of political opinion.

**FLOATING POST-OFFICES.**—A correspondent of the *Daily News*, on the subject of the distribution of the homeward foreign mails, suggests that these mails should be sorted while on the voyage. He says:—"How easy it would be for a Post-office clerk to sort a West India, East India, or Peninsular mail during its passage to England from Bermuda, St. Thomas, Gibraltar, or Vigo. Letters could be stamped, taxed, and sorted on board a steamer as well as in a railway-carriage. There is always at least twelve hours lost before a mail is fit for distribution after it is landed. If a mail were sorted into districts or roads on its homeward voyage, it could be sent east, west, north, and south immediately after it was landed."

### MARBLE STATUE

#### OF THE LATE COUNTESS OF ELGIN.

THIS work of monumental sculpture, by John Steele, R.S.A. of Edinburgh, attracted much attention at the last exhibition of the Royal Academy. It is to be placed in the Cathedral of Spanish Town, Jamaica, and is now on the passage to its destination. It was voted by the House of Assembly as a testimonial of the high sense entertained of the piety of the accomplished Lady Elgin, whose amiable disposition and enlightened exertions had great influence in aiding the interests of Christian morality in that part of the world. The statue, accordingly, has a devotional character, and the lady is represented seated with an open Bible on her knee; whilst the face, which is turned upwards, is an exquisite portraiture of faith and hope. Altogether, this statue will bear comparison with either of the artist's former works: it is full of classic and chaste simplicity.

The inscription on the monument states, that it is not intended as a cold tribute of respect due to exalted rank, but to mark the public regret for distinguished worth and talent, so early lost to her country and her family.

### THE FORTY-DAY MAIZE IN ST. JAMES'S PARK.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

YOUR Illustrations of the American Indian Corn, Barbadoes Corn, and Hybrid Forty-day Maize Plants, grown in St. James's Park, are very correct. A few words of further explanation may, perhaps, be acceptable to your readers.

I will premise that the Forty-day Maize is so called, because the flower begins to shoot up from the sheath about the fortieth day from the day of sowing; and, in the case of that sown in the Park, the flower was visible on the forty-third day. All the three sorts you represented were sown on the same day, and under like circumstances. The American is from the ordinary Indian corn seed imported into this country, to be met with in Mark-lane and at all the seed-shops. It is large and coarse in the ear, with a flat grain, giving a great deal of bran from flour about as coarse as sawdust, without sweetness, and is only fit for pig-feeding. This sort blossomed in eighty-five days after sowing, and though still standing in the Park, the ear of seed is not ripe; nor will it ripen, unless sown on hot-beds or under some particular care, in this climate.

The ripe seed of the Barbadoes is so much like the seed of the Forty-day, that it is difficult to distinguish the one from the other. The parties who gave me the seed, insisted that it was identical with the Forty-day Hybrid; and, to prove the fact, I consented to sow them together in the Park. How far they have proved alike, may be seen: the Forty-day has borne its ripe seed, whilst the flower of the Barbadoes is only just now beginning to peep from the sheath, 140 days after sowing, and no seed ear is yet visible. So much for trusting to Indian corn seed from its look.

Our farmers have nothing to fear from competition in Indian corn. The bulk, compared to its value, is double that of wheat, and freight and charges are consequently double, a natural protection which will give it an advantage over wheat. Whatever may be its price in America, it has ruled in Liverpool during the last two years, for cargoes afloat, at from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per bushel, and we have, as yet, no reason to suppose it can be sold cheaper without loss to the



MARBLE STATUE OF THE LATE COUNTESS OF ELGIN.



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PHEASANT SHOOTING.—(SEE PAGE 271.)

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The erection of a Lighthouse upon this point was much needed, inasmuch as homeward-bound vessels, particularly those to "Cork for orders," invariably ran for this peculiarly formed island; and, for the reason above stated (want of a refuge harbour, or ignorance of the excellent holding-ground of the bay), were frequently driven ashore, or foundered in the neighbourhood.

Among the vessels lost within the last twenty years are—the *Sovereign*, from Africa, value £20,000, twenty-eight lives lost; the *Nice*, bound to Africa, value £14,000, sixteen lives lost; *City of Bristol* steamer, stranded, value £80,000, crew and cargo saved; *Clementson* barque, from South America, value £28,000,

cargo and two lives lost; *Earl of Roden* steamer, £30,000, cargo lost, crew saved; *Sirius* steamer, value £50,000, cargo and twenty lives lost; the *Pandora*, of Wexford, with all hands, eight or nine in number, value of vessel and cargo £2000; the *Falcon* schooner, one man lost, with vessel and cargo, value £1700; and the *Hebe*, Russian barque, value (had she received no injury) about £15,000. It is reasonable to infer that much of this loss of property might have been saved had there been a light on the island; and, had there been a life-boat in the bay, the lives also might have been rescued.

Ballycotton Island rises 170 feet above the level of the sea. The height of the Lighthouse is 60 feet, including the lantern, giving the light an elevation of

230 feet. In February next a powerful "lens light," on a new principle, will be exhibited, and will be visible upwards of 30 miles to sea. The cost of the Light house, when completed, will be about £10,000.

In the village of Ballycotton, which is an improving fishing hamlet and pleasant bathing-place, considerable industrial operations are carried on under the superintendence of the Protestant clergyman, and chief officer of coast guard, giving employment in the manufacture of nets and fishing gear, together with woollen and linen goods, to about 100 persons. The above gentlemen have published several Reports detailing the success of their experiments, and calculated to excite public interest in the place and people.



NEW LIGHTHOUSE ON BALLYCOTTON ISLAND.